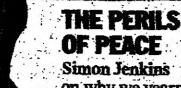
No. 65,775

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1 1997

STYLE

Linda Evangelista wears the trousers PAGE 10



Simon Jenkins on why we yearn for bad news PAGE 14







Ice brings Channel Tunnel to halt

Cold weather shows no sign of relenting

BRITAIN slithered into the new year today in the grip of a freeze which has left many roads impassable, daimed several lives and devastated sporting fixtures. Forecasters expect the cold snap in continue into the weekend.

Temperatures are not expected to rise above a maximum of OC (32F) today. Most areas will be considerably colder with the wind-chill factor adding to the bleak

A London Weather Centre spokeswoman said: We are likely to see it very cold with some snow, a lew flakes for a lot of people rather than huge

As revellers saw in the new year last night, temperatures were expected to fall to -10C (14F) in the Scottish highlands and glens and parts of Notamshire, and -BC (18F) in parts of the country where

Worst hit were Kent, East Anglia, Essex and the east coast from the Wash to Scotland, where between one and



have the heating on

eather centre said yesterday the lowest overnight tempera-ture had been -7C (19F) in

Warwickship the warming of the warming as the most likely cause of the electrical failure which left a Eurostar train and its 469 passengers stranded for more than two hours 11 four inches of snow fell. The miles inside the Channel Tun-



Frosty's return: the head of a snowman kept frozen since last winter was found a new body yesterday by Lukee and Jacob Muren of Keighley, West Yorkshire

Monday night, Engineers believe ice on the train melted in the heated tunnel, causing an electrical fault. The train broke down where one tunnel is shut because of the damage caused by fire two months

Prince Harry were diverted from RAF Marham to Stansted for their flight to sking holiday. In the Channel Islands

which experienced its first heavy fall of snow in nine years, 100 passengers were stranded when three flights to Britain from Jersey were

The effects on the Continent have been far more severe and news agencies put the death Venice lagoon has fregen over, bronchial pneumonia.

In Germany, where temperatures dropped to -ISC (SF) and four people have died in the past week, 16 illegal immigrants, mainly from Bangladesh, gave themselves up in the eastern town of Wildau. in Britain, the death of Charles Howard, 57, a farmworker who collapsed and died while digging his car

tributed to the weather. Two climbers were blown off a ridge in Snowdonia. One suffered head injuries when he fell 60 feet and his companion sustained severe bruising. They were airlifted to hospital.

out of the snow at Baddingham, Suffolk, was at-



In North Yorkshire, council officials recruited more than 100 extra drivers from farms and haulage companies to assist their own staff clearing

The A66 from Scotch Corner to Penrith was closed, as was the eastbound M62 between Howden and North Cave. The MI was down to one or two

lanes in the Midlands and the North. So were the M2 and M20 in parts of Kent.

Motoring organisations re-ported that patrol cars had dealt with about 20 per cent more calls than normal and warned motorists in the worsthit areas not to travel unless the journey was essential. A traditional race across the

ice on the Fens was abandoned because conditions on the washes at Welney, Cambs, were too dangerous.

An estimated quarter of a million football fans will be disappointed by postponed fixtures today.

Forecast, page 20 Winter break, page 21

Outrage over deal to make film about killer West

A LEADING production company is planning to make a film of the life of the serial killer Frederick West using material from the Cromwell Street murder inquiry.

Peter Harris, the Official Solicitor, said yesterday that he has entered into an option agreement contract with the Portman Entertainment Group. The deal gives the London company non-documentary film, television, video and ancillary rights to archive material from the family

Mr Harris was appointed by the courts to look after the interests of the Wests' youngest children. He has the the financial return on the estate, which included the sale of the former family home at 25 Cromwell Street.

The project has outraged many of those touched by the mass murder. The West family is divided and the people of Gloucester are furious that the world is to be reminded of their city's darkest side.

The Rt Rev David Bentley, said: "I deplore the news. The relatives of the victims have suffered quite enough from publicity and considerable media exposure and so have the family of the Wests and, indeed, the whole city of Gloucester.'

Doug West, the killer's brother, said the prospect of a film was "sick". He added: "l reckon they should leave it alone and let everybody forget about it.

The relatives of the victims have had enough, I have had enough. I was hoping to have a good new year and put all this behind me. Now it will all

come up again."

Much of the material was

"THE FIRST

GENUINELY MARVELLOUS

FILM OF 1997."

derived from the lengthy inquiry which led to builder West being charged with 12 counts of murder. He hanged himself on New Year's Day 1995 while awaiting trial. His wife, Rosemary, was later convicted on ten murder counts and is now serving life

imprisonment. No details were given about the financial aspects of the deal. But the option contract is believed to be in four figures. A large cash boost can be expected for the estate if a film

finally in production. Terry Haines, the Mayor of Gloucester, also cricised the project. "It is a case of people seeing an opportunity to make money. I don't think a film about Fred West can be justified on any moral grounds."

Douglas French, the Tory MP for Gloucester, said: This is another sordid example of commercial exploitation of tragic events which the residents of Gloucester would prefer to forget. The showing of any film will be deeply painful for relatives of victims. "I intend to urge the Lord

of the Official Solicitor to ensure that any future commercial exploitation is not allowed to take priority over common human decency."

The Portman Entertainment Group has a successful track record - their forthcoming production of Daphne Du Maurier's Rebecca for Carlton Television has been described by critics who have seen the preview as a triumph. Other ventures have included An Awfully Big Adventure, starring Hugh Grant, and first British distribution rights for the Australian soap Home and Away.

Michael Gove, page 14

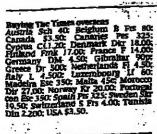
Deng 'very ill' in **Peking hospital**

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN HONG KONG

A HONG KONG newspaper with close ties to the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) reported yesterday that China's senior leader. Deng Xiaoping, was seriously ill and receiving emergency treatment in Peking.

Sing Tao, which publishes a weekly supplement from Liberation Daily, the PLA news-paper in China, said that Deng, 92, was in military hospital 301 in the west of the capital. There was no official confirmnation of the report, though Peking's vice mayor Zhang Baifa, who knows Deng, said last week that the ageing senior leader was in

Deng, who was last seen in



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



public in February 1994, when he looked frail and ailing, has said that he would like to visit Hong Kong to witness Britain handing back the territory to China in June this year. That looks increasingly unlikely.

Deng's health has long

been a matter of speculation, and there have been a series of alarms in the past that were reflected in the stock markets of Hong Kong and Shanghai - this time, though, the news had little impact on share The latest reports come as

state-run China Central Television prepares to broadcast a 12-part series on the life of Deng, who was purged by Mao three times, but each time returned from the wilderness. Newspapers in Hong Kong say it is unusual for such a tribute to be paid during the lifetime of a political leader.

To mark the event, newspapers published prominent photographs of Deng, whose stock has fallen lately with the emergence of President Jiang Zemin as the party's chosen

There is no doubt that Deng is ill, and, as newspapers reported here last October, he may well have lost his ability to hear and even to walk and to converse. His death would not be concealed - it would filter out quickly, for the State and party apparatus is very

Peking fears, page 9

Stamp thief eluded security search at Wilson's No 10

By Adrian Lee

HAROLD WILSON, always hounded by fears of dark conspiracies against him, was betrayed by one of his staff who "looked common, possibly from the gardener class". from 1966, released today, disclose that the Prime Minis-

Government documents ter's staff spent the spring of 1966 trying to unravel who, among the Downing St staff, might be selling collectable Rhodesian stamps from Mr Wilson's correspondence. Envelopes bearing the stamps had acquired a rarity

value as they had been de-clared illegal by the Paymas-ter General following Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence. The letters, addressed to Wilson, were turning up at the stamp dealer Stanley Gibbons and Wilson wanted to know how. It was not so much a case of stamping out Downing St leaks as of leaking out Downing St stamps.
The whodunnit began when

a man, claiming to be from the Wilson household, walked into the Stanley Gibbons office in the Strand and sold eight envelopes bearing Rhodesian stamps — face value 2s 6d (12'2p) each — for £2. Wilson's security chief, Group Captain MED Williams, was detailed to sniff out the culprit.

The description, provided by the buyers, was a starting point. Clean-shaven and of medium build, the suspect wore a hat but not glasses. He was 5ft 6in tall, aged about 45, and "looked common, possibly from the gardener class". That "could apply to many members of the staff of Num-

ber 10," Group Captain Wil-

liams sniffed in his nine page

report. In all, 82 staff - from

the head of the post depart-ment offered to sign an affida-vit saying she was not the Explaining his decision to question high-ranking offici-als, Group Captain Williams said: "Equity requires that the finger of suspicion should at least be pointed in that direction as well as at the civil servants who work here."

cleaner to Private Secretary -

were interrogated, in the

spring of 1966. The ministerial

and Church appointments sec-

tion came under scrutiny and

The rogue philatelist was never found. As months passed it became dear that staff at numbers 11 and 12 also had access to Wilson's mail. So did police officers. Group Captain Williams, and the report's coauthor, S.C. Firman, head of security at the Treasury, realised that the net was becoming too wide. In May 1966, the

search was abandoned. After the affair, Downing Street actually considered destroying all foreign stamps to avoid a repeat. There was even a suggestion that No 10 should follow the thief's lead and sell stamps to raise revenue. The idea brought the snappy response from the prime minis-ter's office: "We are not philatelists. We are a government department dealing with correspondence."

Markets end the year on a high Shares and the pound ended the year in London at a record

The FT-SE 100 index of

leading shares rose 28 points to close at 4,118.5, a new closing high and a rise of 11.7 per cent on the year. The pound's Bank of Eng-

land trade-weighted index rose 0.5 to close at 96.1, a rise on the year of 15.6 per Stock market, page 34

Frinton wows the Germans again

The music hall artist Freddie Frinton, who found brief fame as Thora Hird's husband in the 1960s television series Meet The Wife, is now a cult hero to generations of

For millions of German television viewers New Year's Eve is not complete without watching Frinton in Dinner For One, an obscure comedy routine filmed more than three decades ago ____Page 3

Israel haggles over Hebron deal

Israel was still haggling with the Palestine Liberation Organisation over prisoner releases and target dates for future West Bank handovers, after agreeing on terms for its withdrawal from most of Hebron.

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, has postponed his proposed Yassir . Page 6

"HUGELY UPLIFTING... A SYMPHONY TO LIFE"

TV & RADIO ______38, 39 CROSSWORDS......20, 40

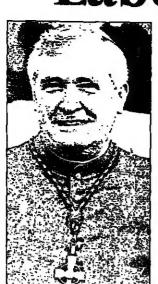
SIMON JENKINS 14

One of the banned envelopes that had gained a rarity value

CHESS & BRIDGE......29 COURT & SOCIAL16

BUSINESS33-38, 40 FASHION10 LAW REPORT 32

Labour casts Major as general in the dirty war



Winning: abortion claim threatens bipartisanship

POLITICAL EDITOR

FRESH evidence that this year's election campaign will be the dirtiest on record emerged last night as Labour pledged to puncture John Major's "nice guy" image and the Conservatives strained the longstanding political truce over

Labour will this weekend faunch an offensive to target the Prime Minister as the man behind what the Conservatives privately admit will be the most expensive negative advertising campaign in Britain. Only days before the campaign is unveiled, senior Labour sources said they intended to demolish the pretence that Mr Major was some how removed from the fray and not responsible for actions done in the name of Conservative Central

In a taste of the battle ahead, a

is an out-and-out hypocrite. He likes to give off the image of nice, honest John. But he personally sanctioned the demon eyes adverts attacking Tony Blair, he accused John Prescott of not being able to understand long words and it was his speech in 1992 that conjured up the phrase about a Nightmare on Kinnock

"He got away with it in 1992. We aim to ensure that he does not this year. At every opportunity we will point out that if the Tories play dirty. John Major will have ap-

The Labour move is a pre-emptive strike against the multimillion-pound publicity campaign aimed at Mr Blair and Labour's taxation and spending plans that has been drawn up by Lord Saatchi, Sir Tim Bell and Lord Chadlington, the Tories' advertising chiefs, and approved by the Cabinet before Christmas. But as recognition by Labour that Mr Major will be one of his party's leading assets in the election.

Labour sources said: "We know that we have to stop him from distancing himself from the dirty work done by his front men, Brian Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine. He is at the heart of the campaigning. We do not believe that he is dragged along reluctantly.
"After the negative campaigning

gets into full swing, we fully expect Mr Major on past form to use an interview to try to distance himself from it and to say that this is all Tory party campaigning. He will try to keep his hands clean. But they will not be. Major will have sancnoned everything."
Relations between the parties on

the eve of election year were bitter yesterday when the Conservatives appeared to associate themselves

abortion stance from the leader of Scotland's Catholics, Cardinal Thomas Winning suggested that Labour was pro-abortion and claimed that Labour MPs and candidates opposed to abortion were forced to suppress their views for fear of losing their trade union

sponsorship, provoking indignant denials from the party leadership. Clare Short, the Shadow Over-seas Development minister, said the cardinal was wrong and "out of order". John Reid, the Scottish Catholic Labour MP, said he was on a "dangerous slope". The new attack provoked strong irritation in the Labour leadership after the decision of a new anti-abortion movement, the Pro-Life Alliance, to move into the election arena and to fight 50

The alliance, boosted by Sunday's attack on abortion by Cardinal Basil Hume, the Archbishop of WestminLondon at the end of January. But Cardinal Winning's intervention also caused a breach in the traditionally bipartisan approach on abortion. It is not treated as a party issue because of the strong differences on conscience grounds within all parties.

However, Conservative sources accused Labour of hypocrisy on the issue and pointed out that Emily's List - a pressure group which aims to get more women elected as . Labour MPs and which is organised by Barbara Follett, the candidate at Stevenage - insisted that candidates had to be pro-choice on

Tory sources said: "This is a classic example of the pressure put on Labour MPs to become pro-choice. It is true that a lot of trade unions put pressure on candidates to give pro-choice statements before they are selected. But with which says you have to be pro-choice before you get their support." Labour said that Emily's List was independent of the party. It warned the Conservatives to tread carefully over abortion, which many of their MPs supported.

The cardinal told BBC Radio 4's

Today programme that Labour's attitude was perceived as strongly pro-abortion. What I would like to see is the Labour Party saying in public that anyone who is pro-life and always has been has every much a right to promote those views within the Labour Party as someone who has pro-abortion tendencies.

"I have had too many Labour MPs tell of the pressures they are under to go along with the party line and if they didn't, they would lose their sponsorship from the trade unions - I can youch for that. There is great pressure on them to be

 $(a_i^{(i)}, \dots, a_n^{(i)})$

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Governor's call gives heart to Eurosceptics

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Governor of the Bank of "sustainability of England has heartened leading Conservative Eurosceptics by emphasising the need for "rigorous" checks to ensure that European Union countries do not fudge the conditions for entering a single

Eddie George has insisted that the EU must be sure that the convergence between individual countries' economics that is required for a single currency must be shown to be lasting and not short-term.

In a lener to the prominent sceptic William Cash. Mr George set out a number of statements from the European Monetary Institute, on which he serves as a council member, warning that fudges must be avoided and that one-off measures to cut government deficits should not be seen as ensuring a lasting achievement of the terms.

Mr George's words come amid attempts by a substantial number of Cabinet ministers to force from Kenneth Clarke more details of how the Government judge whether other countries

had fulfilled the criteria. An attempt by the Chancellor to close down the issue with a Cabinet paper suggesting that judgments could not he made until 1998 failed two weeks ago when ministers such as Michael Howard. Gillian Shephard, Stephen Dorrell and Viscount Cranborne called for more information and were backed by

the Prime Minister. In his letter Mr George said that that in addition to dicussions at the EM1 he and Bank colleagues had consistently argued the case for a thorough assessemnt of the

gence". He quoted from a speech to the CBI in which he doubted whether the DEU's architects had envisaged "the present hectic dash for the line" or that some of the runners "might be tempted to take artificial stimulants in order to get there".

Mr George said the statements showed the importance he attached to a "rigorous assessment of the degree of sustainable convergence" and would continue to argue the

Mr Cash said he had written to Mr George to determine the Bank's line on fudging. He said: "I have more faith in what the Bank would do than the Treasury and I am encouruged by the firmness of his views. Fudging is happening and the Cabinet must not be taken in by the attempts by the Treasury and Kenneth Clarke to pretend that it is a one-off occurrence."

The simmering tensions among Tory MPs on Europe were again on view yesterday when another Euroscet resa Gorman accused the Government of "rigging" a parliamentary debate over Europe. She said ministers had used "devious devices" to ensure that only pro-European MPs spoke in the Commons debate.

During the two-day debute. 32 speakers supported the European Union, while only 13 opposed further integration. But the figures could not be taken at face value. Mrs Gorman said. The debate was rigged by the simple device of loading the Government benches with former ministers and Privy Counsel-

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Alan Savage with his father's La Sevillana rose

Quirky rose brings rare colour to winter scene

GARDENING experts are baffled by a rose which failed to bloom in the summer but has flowered in the middle of

The La Sevillana rose is currently displaying vivid red flowers in a public garden in the chilly climes of East Cramlington in Northumber-

Alan Savage, co-ordinator of Project 2000 which has planted the garden to mark the millennium, said: "I have never heard of anything like this happening before. The flowers are really fresh and bright red, it looks very strange and beautiful against

the background of snow. "It started flowering about two weeks ago to the astonishment of everyone living near by. It has become quite an attraction. There are two flow-

bush is obviously oblivious to the fact that it should be lying dormant at the moment. It has been the most lovely surprise. The local children go along and stare at it, they have never seen anything like it and

neither have i. I don't know why this has happened. The rose has survived winds. freezing temperatures, torrential rain, hail, sleet and snow, no one could have credited La Sevillana would make such a late appearance. It is just one of those marvellous quirks of nature. It is a remarkable thing and the crowning glory of a garden that was created through a lot of hard work from volun-

The garden covers what was once an acre of wasteland and contains more than a thousand varieties of rare plants ers that have fully bloomed and lots of rosebuds that are just starting to open. This look and smell lovely and delicate but they are in fact very hardy and a few of them do bloom quite late in the year. However it has been a very chilly December and for this bush to burst into flower now it must be a particularly tough

Trevor Simms, an adviser at the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley, said: "I suspect it is flowers hanging on from the summer, but if it is not, then it is something really unusual They must wait and see if it does it again next winter. If it does then they will certainly

have something special."

Arthur Widdas, chairman of the rose group on the Northern Horticultural Society. based at Harlow Carr rdens in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, said: "I have heard of the variety, but I don't know much about it and I have certainly never heard of a rose coming into bloom in the

Goldsmith organiser quits 'party of nothing'

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Referendum Party suffered an embarrassing blow yesterday when one of its paid officials quit and poured scorn on Sir James Goldsmith's claim that it had widespread support. John Bostock, a former Tory party agent, con-tended that Sir James had a maximum 15,000 supporters in the United Kingdom and that his party was "run by amateurs.

Trailing vitriol as he left his £24,000 job as a regional campaign manager, he announced that he was defecting to the rival UK Independence Party. The Referendum Party accused him of acting out of bitterness because of his difficulties in recruiting candidates in the North West region for which he was responsible.

Mr Bostock said the party was disorganised and did not have a single supporter in some seats. He also cast doubt on its ability to field candidates in every constituency at the election where a sitting MP fails to support a referendum on Europe. The whole complete and utter fallacy," he

"Fifteen thousand people is a drop in the ocean, it is a nothing party - and if it had been members, it would have been a lot less. The average Conservative party associ-ation has about 1,000

members. Mr Bostock left his post as a Conservative agent for Blackpool in the summer in opposition to the Tories' European policy. He is to stand as the Independence Party's candiate in Preston. A spokesman for the UKIP said: "We are very pleased that Mr Bostock has decided to join us."

Mr Bostock accused Sir James of "backtracking" on his original suggested referendum question - whether Britain should be governed from Westminster or Brussels. The Referendum Party leader now prefers a "multi-optional" plebiscite accommodating a

diversity of views. They say they will be in a position to put a candidate in every seat at the next election. That is absolute rubbish. They won't manage that at all. They haven't got the candidates or the organisation to support candidates. There are quite a few candidates that have dropped out as a result."

A Referendum Party spokesman, Priti Patel, said Mr Bostock had managed to recruit five new candidates in the north west and was "clearly slightly bitter". She added: "We didn't lose him. We had an additional team in place and then he went. We have replaced him with a very strong regional team. We have got a lot of support and a lot of interest in the North West." There were 48 party candidates ready in the 71 seats in the region, she added.

Carey urges society to protect the weak

The Archbishop of Canterbury called on society to make an "uncompromising commitment to protect the weak and vulnerable", in a new year address today. Dr George Carey also recalled the Dunblane tragedy and other crimes against children and adults, in his remarks broadcast five minutes after midnight on BBC1.

Dr Carey said: "There will be many who will be deeply thankful that 1996 has ended. For those of us who love children, 1996 will forever speak of Dumblane. None of us knows what 1997 will bring. Nationally, we shall be facing a general election. Individually, all kinds of challenges lie ahead, and many uncertainties."

Dr Carey said that he remembered the 1,400th anniversary of Augustine — the first Archbishop of Canterbury in 597 — as he looked at the paintings in the Chapel at Lambeth Palace but he also drew attention to the modern pictures "to remind us that the Church today is for all people of every race and continent". The images show outstretched hands praying. Dr Carey said: "Hands lifted in prayer must result in hands reaching out to all people with the love of God."

Scott inquest adjourned

A post-mortem examination had failed to establish the cause of death of the jazz musician and club owner Ronnie Scott, an inquest was told yesterday. The 69-year-old tenor saxophonist was found dead in his Chelsea flat in central London two days before Christmas. Peter King, his business partner, in a statement read to the Westminster Coroner's Court in central London, said Mr Scott had suffered from depression and had contemplated suicide in 1966. "He had. had problems with his teeth and this had made it difficult for him to play his instruments." Paul Knapman, the Coroner, adjourned the hearing until February 5 for further inquiries.

Actors threaten pay fight

Theatres could be closed throughout the country in spring because of a campaign by the actors' union Equity to win a minimum pay rate of £250 a week. The union said actors had been subsidising the theatre for years by accepting low wages but were now feeling "frustrated and angry". Scores of regional theatres, although not those in London's West End, could be hit by the campaign. "For too long too high a priority and too many resources have been invested in shortterm and over-expensive marketing strategies and overelaborate sets at the expense of cast sizes and actors' salaries," said Ian McGarry, Equity general secretary.

Knife ban becomes law

A measure designed to keep knives out of the hands of youngsters comes into effect today. Section 6 of the Offensive Weapons Act 1996 will make it an offence to sell to anyone under 16 a knife, knife blade, razor blade, axe or any article which has a blade or is sharply pointed and which is made or adapted to cause injury. The offence will be punishable by up to six months' imprisonment. Folding pocket knives with a cutting edge not exceeding 3in and cartridge head razor blades will be exempted from the sales ban. From September, it became a criminal offence to carry a knife on school premises, with a maximum penalty of two years' jail.

Tory call over OAPs

The Conservative MP Terry Dicks yesterday urged the Government to replace the present cold-weather payments sys-tem with extra payments to all old-age pensioners of £10 to £15-a-week throughout November, December, January and February. He said he supported Labour's campaign to ease the criteria for triggering cold-weather payments but that he wanted to go much further. Mr Dicks, MP for Hayes and Harlington, said the money could be raised by ending payments to "scroungers" who came to Britain, closing down the National Heritage Department, and reducing funds for overseas aid and the anti-Aids campaign.

Third time unlucky

Janine Marshall, a clerk with one of the country's biggest insurance firms, will have to put in an unusual claim after her car was hit three times in one morning while parked outside her home in Stockport, Cheshire. The first collision came as she was watching morning television. While she was telephoning the insurance company to tell them. another car slid on the black ice and ran into hers. As she comforted the woman driver of that car, a third hit the now badly crumpled Ford Fiesta. She said: "The trouble is. I don't know if the worst damage was done in the first, second.

Duke tells Labour of his empathy with common man

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE DUKE of Buccleuch vesterday responded to Labour Party criticism that he was out of touch by claiming that he knew a thing or two about the common man.

The Duke, Britain's largest private landowner, said his career as an "ordinary seaman" and his regular dialogue with the many hundreds of workers employed on his Scottish estate meant that he had seen a good

The Duke was among a number of hereditary peers criticised in a report published earlier this week by Labour. The analysis is designed to justify the party's intention to strip Tory peers of their voting rights. The Shadow Home Affairs spokesman Jack Straw said the Duke owed his title to the fact that one of his ancestors was the bastard a powerful landowner could represent the views of ordinary people. Yester-day, the Duke, whose title is derived from the Duke of Monmouth, Charles II's son by Lucy Waters, responded by suggesting that Mr Straw was 'mesmerised" by acres and said his varied experiences meant he could teach the Labour MP a thing or two. Speaking on BBC Radio 4's World at man. I could tell Jack Straw a thing or two about life with a capital L, because I served as an ordinary seaman on the

deck of a destroyer in wartime and saw a good deal of life there," he said, "I also stood and served as a member of parliament for North Edinburgh for 13 years, fighting five elections and living and working in the countryside. We have something like 1,000 people involved in our

get on with them and know their backgrounds probably better than he Uack Strawl is ever likely to discover." Asked how he would justify the voting rights of hereditary peers, the Duke said he would like to return to the Scottish system pre-1963 when Scottish representative peers were elected by their fellow members.

England and Wales and Scotland should now all consider the idea of having representative peers, so that you didn't do away with the hereditary peerage completely." he said.

"But you got a very good young blood coming in which you do with true hereditary peers. Whereas appointed peers tend to be sometimes a bit of a waste paper basket from the House of Commo He said the best justification was

made by a robust Labour peeress

had appointed some rather surprising candidates to the House of Lords. She had said: "Is it really so much better that peers should be appointed by Harold Wilson than by the

The Duke added that 95 per cent of the acres on his estate had a valu similar to the space occupied by a waste paper basket in a City office.
Following publication of his analy-

sis, Mr Straw, who attended Brent wood School in Essex and Leeds University, was also criticised yestenday for his derogatory use of the term "bastard". Gerald Hartup, director of the Freedom Association, a right-wing pressure group, said Mr. Straw's. comment was shamful. *Children from non-traditional families will be devastated by this calculated insult-

he said.



Duke of Buccleven said he knew about life:

المكذا من الأصل

DIAL-A-PHONE

Forgotten Fred keeps German new year alive

Frinton made his name

playing stage drunks

who made his name as a stage

drunk, becomes increasingly

inebriated. Every time he walks around the table he

trips up on a tiger rug in a

parody of the music hall

At every stage, Frinton asks plaintively whether he has to

go through the same proce

chare every year. In a reply that

raises instant recognition

throughout Germany, Miss

Sophie insists: The same

procedure as every year."
The putter line is a sexual-

artist's prat fall.

THE long forgotten music hall artist Freddie Frinton, who found brief fame as Thora Hird's husband in the 1960s television series Meet The Wife, is now a cult hero to generations of Germans.

Millions of German television viewers do not believe their New Year's Eve celebrations are complete without switching on to see Frinton perform in Dinner For One, an obscure comedy routine filmed more than three decades ago in black and white.

The sketch, filmed in Hamburg by the NDR broadcasting station in 1963, shows. Frinton and his stage sidekick May Warden play out one of their variety set pieces, famil-iar to music hall audiences, as the long-suffering butler to a deluded 90-year-old downger.

iety eak

It has become so ingrained in German popular culture that it has been shown on television every New Year's Eve for the past 33 years. German sociologists earnestly debate its significance. It enjoys its own entry in the German Guinness Book of Records and enthusiasts like to hold Dinner For One parties - they watch the video, eat mulligatawny soup. North Sea shellfish and roast chicken like the characters.

Gertrud Erbach, a German librarian who lives in London, said: "People like to watch it two or three times on New Year's Eve because the local stations show it at differen times. It is a cult much like the Rocky Horror Picture Show. People know exactly what is going to happen, they know the words and can anticipate the jokes. It is something that

everybody knows." This year a dedicated viewer with access to both cable and satellite TV could have watched it six times between 7pm and lam, it was screened on six regional television stations of the third television channel, Germany's equiva-lent to Channel 4. More than grainy black and white origin struggled to appear risque nal last year and even more even to an audience brought were expected to have up on Max Miller sketches, switched on last night. The When it comes to Miss

sketch is still shown undubbed Sophie's bedtime, she holds and without sub-titles. Ouce a favourite at end-ofan invitation to be whisked off pier shows. Frinton plays a long-suffering butler serving to the downger's bedroom. She insists that the butler perhis mistress, Miss Sophie, at forms the "same procedure as her 90th birthday dinner. Places are set for old military every year" whereupon James replies wearily: "I'll do my very best."

types, Sir Toby, Admiral von Schueider, Mr Pommeroy and For much of his career Mr. Winterbottom, all of Printon scratched a living on whom are long since dead.

To keep the charade alive, the variety circuit. His most well known character was as a Frinton has to keep circling the table as he acts the part of drunk. His catchphrase "good evening ossiler" was heard from Blackpool to summer each guest drinking a toast to Miss Sophie's health at the season at Bournemouth. end of each course. Frinton, Frinten, son of a Grimsby

> fame in Meet The Wife. Frinton's lugubrious features perfectly matched the henpecked character but the series ame to an end in 1968 when he died from a heart attack. Some years earlier he had been spotted by German television executives from Hamburg when he was performing for seaside audiences in Blackpool. In 1963 Frinton travelled Germany to appear on a television that show along with the familiar tiger rug from Dinner For One. How-ever, he always refused to film the show in German because, it is rumoured, he didn't like Germans. One television executive told BBC Radio 4's Today programme: "The more often you watch it, the funnier

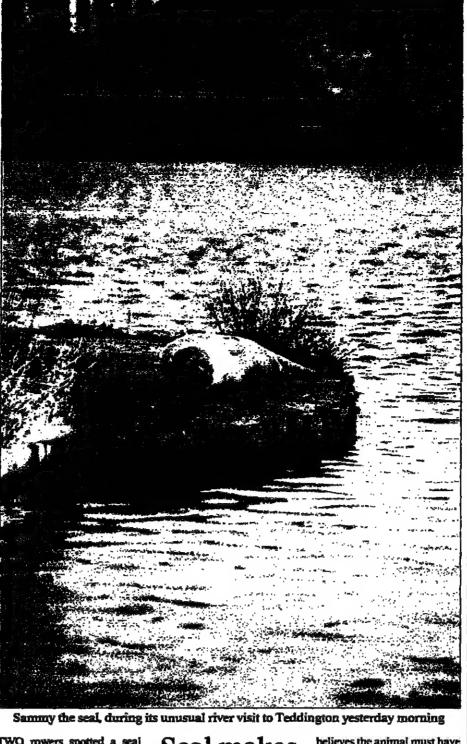
However, two years ago a Munich-based newspaper suggested that Frinton had done more for Anglo-German relations than the footballer Jürgen Klinsmann.

it gets. It is typically British

black humour.

Perhaps the biggest compliment to the show came during the first reading of the federal budget in Germany this year. Ingrid Matthaus-Maier, the German Social Democratic Party's front bench spokesperson on public finances, dropped into English to accuse Theo Waigel, the Bonn finance minister, of adopting the "same procedure as every deficit. The reference brought.

Leading article, page 15



TWO rowers spotted a seal lolling on a bank of the Thames just upstream of Teddington yesterday morn-ing (Nick Nuttall writes).

Crispin Jessop, one of the oarsmen, and a keen amateur photographer, said: "We were paddling into Trowlock Is-land, about half a mile upstream of Teddington Lock, after rowing to Harupton Court and back. The wind chill factor made it about -12C.

Suddenly, here was this seal.
"We have seen great-crested But I have never seen a scal upstream," Mr Jessop, 49, a salesman, said, The seal, which has been named Sam-

Seal makes trip up the Thames

my, must have travelled 50 miles up the Thames. Mr Jessop's friend Gerry

Spring urged him to dash back to his home in Twickenham to fetch a camera. He had the fleeting chance of capturing the seal for posteriher side, and plopped back into the river. "We wondered whether we should contact the RSPCA," said Mr Jessop.He

believes the animal must have negotiated a salmon ladder to have got beyond Teddington

The Environment Agency's Thames region office said: We received a call from a pub saying they had seen a seal I suppose we wondered if they had started the new year festivities early. But we do get reports of about one

The agency said it did not intervene in such cases. The river is basically tidal at this supply of fish. The seal will probably make its way back

Police seek | What's in children in a name for £180 taxi ride home

By A STAFF REPORTER

POLICE are trying to trace two children who apparently set off together on a mysterious 400-mile round trip by train and taxi with at least £180 in cash.

Officers in Liverpool were aleried on Monday night after a ten-year-old girl and sixyear-old boy arrived at the city's Lime Street Station on a train from London. A ticket collector noticed that their tickets were valid only to Luton. Bedfordshire, when he challenged them, they ran off into the city.

After media appeals yesterday, the wife of a Liverpool taxi driver contacted police to confirm that her husband had driven the children back to Luton on Monday night. The girl was able to pay the driver the fare, believed to be about £180, in cash. The children were of Mediterranean appearance and spoke with foreign accents.

Detective Chief Inspector Phil Barr said: "The children got into a taxi in Lime Street and asked to be taken to London. The driver said he could not do that but took them to the taxi office.

"The girl rang her mother from a phone box there and put her on to the taxi driver. The mother confirmed that he should drive them home and that her daughter had enough money to pay the fare.

When they got there the children asked to be dropped in Luton rather than at a specific address, and the girl paid the taxi driver. We are satisfied that it is the same two ch<u>ildren and that they are no</u>w in Luton.

But we are unable to trace who they are, and we have spoken to our colleagues in Bedfordshire constabulary to try to ascertain who they are and that they have returned to their mother.

"It is a bizarre story, but they are all the facts we have. We still don't know why they travelled all the way to Liverpool or why they had all that money with them in the first

A Liverpool police spokesoman sako: "It mient just d that they were meant to get off at Luton but missed their stop and for some reason had enough money for the taxi."

newborn Cassius?

By JOANNA BALE

BY naming their newborn son Cassius, after christening his elder brother Columbus, Lady Helen Taylor and her art dealer husband Tim have re-established a tradition of exotic royal names.

Cassius, who is twenty-sixth n line to the throne, may have been named after the Roman who led the conspiracy against Julius Caesar. Another, less notorious Cassius, is the boxer Muhammad Ali. who changed his named from Cassius Clay.

Mandy Allwood, the woman who lost eight babies after becoming pregnant on fertility drugs last year, also named one of them Cassius. The origin of the name is unclear but it could come from the Latin cassus, mean-

ing "hollow" or "empty". Whatever their reason for choosing the name, the Taylors were keeping it quiet vesterday. A Buckingham Palace spokeswoman said she had "no idea" what had inspired them.

Cassius's brother Columbus, from the Latin columba meaning pigeon or dove, appears to have been named after a 6th-century Scottish saint, St Columba, or the 15th-century Italian explorer. Christopher Columbus, although there were rumours that it was the former name of the Taylors' favourite Knightsbridge restaurant in their courting days. Other unusual royal names include Princess Anne's daughter Zara. Princess Alexandra's daughter Marina Mowatt chose Zenouska for her daughter.
The Duke and Duchess of

York's daughters Beatrice and Eugenie were named after Queen Victoria's youngest child and her daughter.

In the 13th century, Edward i named a daughter Berengaria, while in more recent times George III named four of his 15 children Augusta or Augustus - two as their middle names. He also had a son called Adolphus and another Octavius.

Royal watcher. Margaret mon surname like Taylor, you need an unusual Christian name to stand out, especially if you have royal blood."

Britons pay £5bn to keep life sweet

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

BRITONS kept their place as the world's leading consumers of chocolate and confectionery. in 1996, raising their spending by 6 per cent to £4.9 billion. Among the newer tempta-tions, chocolate ice-cream bars accounted for £77 million, and sales of kingsize bars rose 28 per cent to £49 million.

The favourite seller for the tenth year in succession was the KirKat, beating off the challenge from the Mars bar, says Nestlé in its annual review of the confectionery market. In the UK, 47 KitKat bars are eaten every second. The sexes have their differ-

ences: men are more likely to favour Mars and Snickers bars, while women prefer what the experts classify as lighter" brands such as Aero and Flake. A third of all the chocolate and confectionery is eaten by children, whose topselling brands were Milky Way, Smarties, Milky Bar and Rowntree's Fruit Pastilles.

There is only limited evidence of concern about having a sweet tooth. The purchase of sugar-free mints has more than doubled since 1993 although they lag far behind

Saudi lawyers say trial of nurses will be fair

By A STAFF REPORTER

LAWYERS acting for the two British nurses accused of murdering an Australian colleague in Saudi Arabia yesterday insisted that they would help them to receive a

fair trial. They issued an explanation of the country's legal system after widespread reports in the western media that defence lawyers have no right to conduct cross-examinations or arrange for translators. The firm Salah Al-Hejailan.

based in the capital Riyadh, said the case could display the merits of Saudi's legal system to the outside world. The statement included details on how victims' families can waive their right to ask for the death penalty in return for the payment of "blood money".

Deborah Parry, 41, from the Midlands, and Lucille Lauchlan, 31, from Dundee are jointly charged with murdering Yvonne Gilford, 55, a senior theatre nurse at the King Fahd Military Medical College, in Dhahran. They were arrested on De-

cember 20, nine days after Miss Gilford was found stabbed and beaten to death. and are being held in prison. If found guilty the two could be publicly executed. However Ghazi Alghosaibi, the Saudi

ambassador, said the death sentence was not automatic. The legal firm was appointed after a visit by the British consul Timothy Lamb to the two women. Earlier this week, Miss Par-

ry's family expressed shock and surprise at her arrest. They described her as a dedicated nurse who could not have committed the crime. Her family say that she suffered a succession of blows. Her mother Euroce

was killed in a boating accident while on holiday in Norfolk. Her father John died several years later and then her teenage brother was killed in a motorcycle crash. Sandra



Parry: family insists on her innocence

Ashbee, 40, Miss Parry's eldest sister, who lives in Alton, Hampshire, said: "It just doesn't add up. There is no way she has done this. I will stake my life on it. Life is so precious to her because of what happened to her in the

The lawyers stressed that Islamic law would ensure a fair trial for the couple. The law firm said that the killing had "touched upon the feel-ings of the Saudi community as the offence has been allegedly committed by foreigners who are members of the nursing profession which is generally believed to be a profession of mercy".

It said suspects had "the right to have a fair trial. This involves magisterial inquiry to be conducted by a judge, the right of the accused to seek legal assistance and to be assisted by a translator". The firm said a defence

lawyer would speak on behalf of the nurses in court and could conduct a form of crossexamination. There would be no prosecution lawyer, only a police report with the judge handling the rest of prosecution case. Under Islamic law, the victim's family could ask for blood money in place of the death penalty.

Wheelchair ban at 'friendly' station

By PAUL WILKINSON

TRAVELLERS in wheelchairs have been told that they cannot use trains at a new station hailed as disabled-friendly when it opened four months ago.

Yarm Station in Stockton-on-Tees cost £600,000 to build and incorporates the latest facilities for the disabled, including tactile surfaces and ramps. But the station at the market town is unmanned, and Regional Railways says that for insurance purposes a member of staff must be present if disabled people board

or alight from trains. The problem came to light when Eric Parker, a wheelchair-hound pensioner, wanted to travel from his home in Shellield to visit his son Ted, who lives only 30 yards from the station. His son said: "We were delighted when the new station opened as it meant Mum and Dad could visit. Dad has an electric

wheelchair and the light transport system in Sheffield means he can get from his home to Sheffield station easily, then catch a train to York and on to Yarm." But when Mr Parker, 67, tried to book

a ticket, he was told he could not get off at Yarm because of his wheelchair. Mr Parker was told he would have to get off at the nearest manned stations at Darlington or Middlesbrough - both more than a dozen miles away - and be collected. Even the assistance of Mr Parker's able-bodied son was not enough to lift the restriction.

His son said: "We can see Yarm station from the house, but in the end Dad had to travel to Darlington where Age Concern kindly picked him up in an adapted minibus and brought him here. That is a 24 mile round trip, which is bad enough, but there are unmanned stations at more far flung places which would mean even more discomfort for disabled passengers.

Half the stations in Britain must be unmanned, and the disabled are effectively banned from using them."

A spokesman for Regional Railways said: "We do provide a good service for disabled passengers but this relies, for insurance purposes, on staff being available to provide assistance getting on and off the train. When Yarm station was built, we carefully considered facilities for the disabled and these were provided with a view to the future. We are carrying out trials on portable ramps which can be carried on trains and operated by the conductor to allow disabled access. The cost of manufacturing and fitting such ramps is expensive, and as a private company we require funding to fit them.

"We have approached local councils in the hope of them paying for this facility but, unfortunately, at the moment wheelchair-bound passengers canot use unmanned stations."





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Cards

Prince unveils plan to save abandoned giants from ruin

By Marcus Binney

keen to sell, either freehold or

on a long lease. A substantial

sum of seed money, believed to

also likely to seek grants from

the Heritage Lottery Fund,

English Heritage and its coun-

terparts in Scotland, Wales

Mr Martin said: "The Phoe-

nix will be able to tackle only a

small proportion of the many

fine buildings now at risk, but

the Prince's example will en-

courage others, showing these

buildings are not useless white

elephants but potentially some of the most interesting places

The chairman of the trust is

David Taylor, who has been

chief executive of the Govern-

ment's regeneration agency,

The Prince is known to be

concerned about such build-

ings as the Royal William

Victualling Yard at Plymouth.

It is the size of a small

Georgian town and remains

largely empty after being

handed to Plymouth Develop-

been reluctant to provide sta-

The Ministry of Defence has

ment Corporation in 1993.

English Partnerships.

to live and work."

and Northern Ireland.

THE Prince of Wales discloses a plan today to breathe life into some of the nation's largest and most neglected listed buildings by turning them into low-cost housing for local people

His newly formed Phoenix Trust will acquire sites such as country houses, textile mills, hospitals and military enclaves, then convert them for sale as places to live and work.

The idea has been prompted by the large numbers of historic properties vacated by the Ministry of Defence and the NHS. Kit Martin, the architect and developer who has been a prime mover in the formation of the trust, said yesterday: "Within a few years of being vacated, many of these buildings have become derelict. Some have already been demolished. We cannot continue to allow acres of useable historic buildings to

be lost. The Prince is president of the trust and will be involved in choosing buildings for conversion. The trust will start work this year, tackling four sites at a time, with each project taking about four years for acquisition, repair, conversion and sale. A typical project would cost up to £5 million. although some could be up to £10 million. In each case, most of the cost will be recouped

from sales, mostly to local tistics of its disposals after an people at competitive prices, to help to fund the next projects. outcry at advertisements for Greenwich Royal Naval Some owners have already made it clear that they are

However, Lord Cranborne, Defence under-secretary, said in 1994 that the MoD had "more than 700 listed buildbe well into six figures, has been provided by the oil company Arco. The trust is ings, twice as many as the National Trust". Candidates for disposal include the Royal Clarence Victualling at Gosport, the former guards barracks at Caterham, dating from the 1870s, and the Regency Horseshoe barracks at Shoeburyness, Essex. The NHS is closing numer-

ous specialist hospitals in listed buildings, including the Regency Royal Seabathing Hospital at Margate. Kent. Ninety-eight of 121 former NHS mental hospitals in England are to go by 2000, according to a report published last year. Those empty or soon to be vacated include the Royal Earlswood Hospital near Redhill. Surrey, the Regency Asylum in Gloucester, the Georgian Asylum at Stafford, and Garlands, Carlisle. Mental hospitals were often

boroughs, and were built on south-facing slopes in landscaped grounds. Other candidates for the new trust will be a series of hospitals sold to developers during the 1980s boom, which still remain empty. Among these is the Regency Hospital at Exvale. outside Exeter.

built as showpieces of philan-

thropy by county councils and

where English Heritage is carrying out repairs. In Scotland, more than 100 substantial country mansions lie empty and decaying, many unroofed after the war to

avoid paying rates.
In Wales, a major candidate for the trust is Pembroke Dock, where numerous Regency buildings designed by Edward Holl, architect to the Admiralty, are vacant and in a



Annie Nightingale at Heathrow yesterday. She broke her leg when she was mugged in Cuba on Christmas Eve

Mugged DJ flies home for treatment

THE Radio I disc jockey Annie Nightingale returned to Britain yesterday after being mugged in Cuba on Christmas Eve. She was taken straight from Heathrow to hospital for a check-up after the attack in Havana.

The 54-year-old was accompanied by a British nurse on the flight from Cuba. via Madrid. She looked tired and drawn as she was carried off on a stretcher and taken by ambulance to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, west London.

Miss Nightingale broke her leg when a mugger snatched her bag. A companion who chased the attacker suffered a broken collarbone. Surgeons operated on her the same night and a pin and screws were placed in her leg just below the hip. She will probably not be able to walk for two months.

A spokesman for the BBC said that Miss Nightingale, who became Radio I's first female disc jockey in 1970, was pleased to be home. Miss Nightingale, who had been in Havana to research a music programme, said the affair had been very stressful. "I am just relieved and delighted to be home. I broke down in tears on the way to the hospital because of the whole situation. It was just very difficult being treated by people

you don't understand.
"The language barrier was a major problem although I think the doctors did

a great job," she added. Miss Nightin-gale was being seen by a consultant at St Mary's yesterday and was undergoing a series of X-rays. She is expected to remain in hospital for at least a week.

Police arrested two youths in connection with the attack, in which Miss Nightingale's bag, containing her contacts book, passport, money and return ticket, was stolen.

A 17-year-old and 20-year-old, apprehended at a house in central. Havana near the scene of the mugging, have been charged with robbery with violence and causing actual bodily harm. Both offences carry maximum sentences of eight years.

Pensioner lay dead in home for two weeks

Ex-servicemen living in sheltered housing are furious after a war vereran lay dead in his bedsit for two weeks. His body was not discovered until after Christmas, when the warden was on holiday in Spain.
Police say Les Flemons, 73, a
former Royal Navy electrician, probably died on December 14. But his body was not found until December 29. when his son called police because he could not get a reply at his father's home in Thetford, Norfolk

Residents said they had seen no one patrolling the complex of 36 bedsits and onebedroomed flats since the warden and her husband left for a two-week holiday on Christmas Eve. Housing 21, which runs the complex, said that Mr Flemons had indicated that he did not need regular

Commando deal

Senior officers are writing to ex-commandos who have left the Royal Marines in the past few years, offering them the chance to rejoin without again undergoing the notorious 30week training course. The 7,500-strong Royal Marines are under strength by about

Fingers severed

Two men with meat deavers and baseball bats attacked a 21-year-old man in Levenshulme, Manchester, backing off two fingers and leaving him with cuts to his head forearms and body. Police were later waiting to interview the victim. Christopher Hart Samuel, in hospital.

Church attacker

A man who punched a worshipper and a female steward during early Mass at Westminster Cathedral, London, was ordered by a stipendiary magistrate to be detained at a mental hospital. Noel O'Connor, 29, leapt on to the altar, smashing a 6st crucifix and causing £10,000 damage.

Meningitis death

An 18-year-old Birmingham woman has become the latest fatality from meningitis. Dawn Arries died early on Christmas Day, 36 hours after complaining of a stiff neck. A four-year-old Stoke boy and a 14-year-old Newcastic girl died from the infection before the holiday.

Watch for owls

A campaign is being launched to save the barn owl. Numbers in Britain have declined by 70 per cent since the 1930s to about 5,000 breeding pairs. The public is being asked to report sightings to the British Trust for Ornithology for a national register to provide information on behaviour.

Record pilchard

A 140z 6 dram pilchard caught by Wesley Donoghor, 15, at Brixham, Devon, has been certified by the British Record Fish Committee as the heavi-est on record, 60z more than the previous best. Wesley, who used squid as bait, plans to have it stuffed and hung on his. bedroom wall

Peter the Great arrived in Britain in 1697, not 400 years ago as stated in a leading article on Monday.

How to improve your health odds in life's unequal lottery

pected heart attack less than two years after winning the lottery jackpot. The wealth may have brought happiness but it is also said to have led to

a life of sloth and gluttony. Mr Bailey, 63, a former Birmingham factory worker. aiready had evidence of heart disease before he won the jackpot in April 1995. By the time he died, his weight had reached more than 22 stone, reportedly the result of his fondness for lager, takeaway meals, and lying on the sofa watching videos. He is said to

vice to lose weight and take exercise, and to have failed in his attempts to give up smoking.

Mr Bailey's comparatively early end may in part have been determined by his weight

at birth. The poorer the parents background, the like-lier that a baby will be of low birth weight, and the greater the chance that when he or she reaches middle age, cardio-vascular disease will occur.

Diet in childhood and early life is also related to social background. It takes time, as well as money - both of which



may be in short supply in working-class homes - to prepare the type of food recommended by dieticians as likely to keep the weight down and blood cholesterol low. Furthermore, when Mr Bailey was born, childhood infections were much more common in poor households than today.

It is over-simplistic to claim, as is commonly done, that class differences in life expectancy can just be attributed beer, cigarettes and fried food, not eating enough vegetables. and taking insufficient exercise. But with lung cancer and heart disease the most important killers in late middle age, faulty diet and lack of exercise must contribute to the difference in mortality.

Mr Bailey's obesity, with his consumption of convenience food and large quantities of beer would have made it likely that one day an atheromatous fatty plaque would rupture in a coronary artery and block it so that his heart muscle would

suffer fatal injury. We are born unequal, yet the odds in life's race can be altered. Mr Bailey's chances of reaching old age would have been improved by not smok-

in particular, keeping the fat consumed down to 30 per cent of energy intake, and a high intake of anti-oxidants - vitamins C and E, betacarotene and folic acid. His regular visits to the pub would not have damaged those chances if he had no more than a couple of pints of beer, but a few glasses of red wine would

have been a better tipple.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



Bailey: believed to have

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Flesh-eating bug victim wins £62,000 damages

A BOY who had to have lifesaving surgery after becoming infected with the "flesh-eating bug" has won £62,100 damages from a medical practice and the doctor who wrongly diagnosed his

Peter Duffy was told that he was suffering from gastroenteritis and paracetamol was prescribed for a muscle injury. But within days of a home visit by a family doctor, the teenager was undergoing surgery to cut out tissue from his right arm and chest after he developed necrotising fasciitis. At the Court of Session in

the shell with cruel ease while the giant turtle thrashed around on the beach with

what strength it still had.

trying to escape the poachers'

grasp.
Some of those wishing to
buy the exquisitely marked

turtle shell, or the meat, boast that they are willing to pay

more if they know it is hewn

off while the creature is still alive. The life of this reptile.

which was more than 60 years

old, was extinguished in a few

minutes so that some unthink-

ing tourist could go home

from a South Sea island

holiday with an ornate musi-cal instrument shaped from

its shell, or try some exotic

Earth for 150 million years,

before the age of the dino-

saurs. Today their numbers are dangerously depleted, and

They are increasingly being caught, sometimes accidental-

ly, in fishing nets, mainly by

those trawling for shrimps. Even if the turtle survives the

only seven species remain.

Sea turtles have been on

Edinburgh Mr Duffy sued Adrian Mairs, the GP who first saw him, and

a family doctors' practice, He claimed that if he had been referred to hospital more quickly, a virulent infection he was suffering from would have been identified earlier and treated. This would have avoided him developing the bug and the need for surgery, which has left

him with extensive scarring. Lord Hamilton said in a written judgment issued yesterday that referral 40 hours earlier would have prompted treatment before a condition developed that had "permanent adThe judge was told that Mr Duffy was a 15-year-old pupil at St Augustine's High School in Edinburgh when he fell ill in November 1991. A few days beforehand he had taken

part in a boxing session, when he suffered cuts to his wrist and knuckle. After he felt unwell, suffering vomiting, diarrhoea and a swollen arm, his. mother phoned the Whinpark Medical Centre in Edinburgh. Dr Mairs, who was then an additional GP at the

practice, went to his home. Dr Mairs made a primary diagnosis that the boy was suffering gastroenteritis which required no medical treatment. The doctor diagnosed his painful

swollen upper arm as a muscular injury. His symptoms worsened and two days later his mother again called the practice. Another doctor called on him and immediately had him admitted to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

An acute streptococcal infection was diagnosed and antibiotics were administered intravenously. But a consultant surgeon realised that necrotising fasciitis had developed. If an operation had not been carried out the boy would have died, the court was told. He later had to have skin grafts.

The court was told that after leaving school the teenager was certified as

Charity discloses cruel realities of turtle trade



The green turtle: nesting sites have sharply declined

bother to extricate it but cut off its ensnared flippers and throw the turtle back into the water as shark bait.

Conservationists say that 700,000 nesting sites in Austhat Mexico's olive ridley

in the same period.

The leatherback turtle, Less than I per cent of



do not reach breeding age un-til they are older than 30. At sea they are fast and graceful creatures using their

the green turtle - which is used in turde soup - has lost tralia in the past 25 years, and turtles have lost 350,000 sites

which migrates up and down the west coast of Britain every year, is becoming a rarer sight. Along with four other species, it is now officially classed as endangered. hatching turtles survive to adulthood; and some turtles

naddles in the same way a bird uses its wings. hold its breath for hours at a time, and can slow its heartbeat to only one beat every nine minutes to conserve oxy-gen, as it migrates thousands of miles in a year, moving between nesting and feeding

But their ancient nesting sites are being torn up, because of the greed for beachside developments. souvenirs or restaurant delicacies, and there is a growing

trade in turtle body parts. Turtle skin is used for boots and handbags; the reptile's oil is used for caulking boats and for traditional medicines; and the beautiful translucent shell is used for spectacle frames, jewellery and musical

In an effort to educate the public about the appalling realities of turtle culling. Tusk Force is to show on television the Far East a video depicting a turtle being dismembered alive.

Conservationists concede that it is harder to protect wildlife at sea than on land. Despite the ten-year moratorium on the commercial killing of whales, some half a million dolphins and porpoises are slaughtered each year. The international Whaling Com-mission insists that it is powerless to stop the deaths, be it for sport, food, or fish bait, or. the result of tens of thousands

being caught accidentally in The fear now is that international commitment to the

Tusk Force Appeal

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stocks should be permitted.

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Neela Bettridge, the director of Tusk Force, said: "Once you give any kind of green light, the whale hunters will be back in business with a

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

TUSK

FORCE

From swinging city to Euro-sceptics, '96 was an action replay

CONTRARY to the old joke, 1996 proved that nostalgia is what it

For many people who were around in 1966, living through the past year was rather like being Bill Murray in the film Groundhog Day, waking every morning to spookily familiar experiences, newspaper headlines sensations

and even sadnesses. For the first time in 30 years you The Beatles then were making could have walked out of your the headlines at home and putting

covered your eyelids in Bible black eye shadow and stepped into the seat of a newly designed Jaguar sports car that was the envy of the world, and nobody would have siven you a second classes. Even if given you a second glance: Even if

You were a man. The government documents released today after 30 years in the waults only confirm this sense of deja vn. The aroma of 1966 has hung in the air all year.

front door in a pink mini-skirt. Britain in the news abroad, in the Cup. And London is not only the sort of way that Oasis and Pulp and the Britpop bands are doing today. Newsweek's recent hailing of London as the capital of cool is a startling echo of Time magazine's crowning of London in 1966 as The Swinging City".

Fewer women may have offered to bear Bobby Charlton's babies than they did Alan Shearer's, but in other respects the Euro 96 football tournament reignited all

coolest cultural and fashion canital since the days of Carnaby Street. but the word "cool" has re-entered the language, not as blushingly self-conscious 1960s hippy talk, but as Establishment-fashionable.

In politics, the Labour Party has a leader who has spent the past 12 months painting a picture of a future Britain that is technologically clued-in and wired-up, evoking memories of Harold Wilson and his "white heat of technology"

Tony Blair even has his own Marcia Williams. In fact, he has two: Peter Mandelson and Alastair Campbell.

In another echo, the newly released Cabinet documents show that British politicians were as vexed in 1966 about the threat to sovereignty by membership of the Common Market as they are now. The tide of Euro-scepticism appeared to be as strong then as anything that John Major has to face today.

The issues were given a formal

airing during a Cabinet committee meeting at Chequers in October 1966 before Britain's formal application to join the Common

Market. Further abroad, politicians and diplomats have spent the past year speculating anxiously about Boris Yeltsin's health in much the way they spent 1966 wondering whether or not Mao Tse-tung would live long enough to reap the glory, or the havoc, of his newly launched Cultural Revolution.

And tragically, the Aberfan

reprise at Dunblane. It was in 1966 that The Sound Of Music won the Oscar for Best Film, concrete tower blocks began rising across the country, and Bob Dylan shocked his purist fans by turning up at the Albert Hall with an electric back-

The Who, performing live on stage

Even sheepskin coats made a comeback. Fortunately, Sacha Distel didn't

Bankers lost faith in Wilson's ideas as pound slumped

HAROLD WILSON had lost the confidence of the banks within a few months of his 1966 election victory, confidential records released under the

30-year rule show. With the economy in crisis, the Prime Minister hosted a private dinner party at 10 Downing Street for 18 prominent bankers where he faced stern questioning.

The minutes recorded on August 3 state: The explanation [for the crisis] was to be found in a general malaise throughout the country stemming from the loss of empire and the lack of any idea to replace it." The bankers added: "There was a lack of confidence both at home and abroad in the Government

and hence in sterling." The bankers, among them the Governor of the Bank of . England, believed the Labour Government was against them and the cure was "in a rebuilding of national confidence." They were critical of government policy and singled out overspending on so-

Mr Wilson had clashed with the governor, Lord Cromer, in the run-up to the election in March. Lord Cromer had threatened to resign after the Prime Minister opposed a 1 per cent rise in interest rates. Mr Wilson's attempts that year to shore up sterling led him to seek help from the dent Johnson gave a warning that he [Wilson] might have to take tougher measures to

Valerie Ellioft Adrian Lee and - Joe Joseph

leagues, including George Brown, the Minister for Economic Affairs, were urging him to devalue But Mr Wilson instead pushed through a package of dellationary mea-sures. Minutes of a special Cabinet meeting in July noted the prevailing lack of confi-dence in the British economy was due to a persisting doubt about our ability to pay our

Mr Wilson attempted to. defuse the air of panic among some of his ministers and said: "It is important to distinguish between problems of reality and problems of

He also made clear that despite his concern over rising . unemployment, "if it is a choice between full employment and devaluation, I will devalue." The Cabinet stalled a decision for a year and George Brown made clear that he reserved his position. Among the measures introduced by Mr. Wilson were hire purchase restrictions and a £50 limit for travellers

taking sterling abroad. Mr Wilson blamed the sealed in one meeting that he had considered and rejected, raising the price of school abilise the currency meals and introducing pre-Some of his Cabinet col-scription charges. The Prime

Minister thought his prices and income freeze would have

a "good moral effect".

But the economic picture continued to be bleak. In the summer, Lord Cromer warned the Prime Minister that sterling was in a critical situation after losing £78 million in value in two days.

In October, the Prime Minister confessed in a minute to his Chancellor that the imminent: prospect of 500,000 people unemployed — despite his earlier assurances that half a million would be the upper limit - was "pretty horrify-ing" and he considered covertrestoring cuts in public

But while a key plank of Labour's economic strategy was holding down wages, papers reveal that ministers were reluctant to make the ultimate sacrifice. At a Cabinet meeting where it was suggested that ministers might forgo some of their salaries, the conclusion was that "a voluntary gesture of this kind would not necessarily carry conviction".

The threat to British sover-

eignty from membership of the Common Market was fiercely debated over the year. The issues were aired during a Cabinet committee meeting in October before Britain's formal application to men's strike, low productivity join the Common Market.
and a truculent labour force Papers show that ministers power of the European Commission not only to enforce unpopular decisions but also to delay action Britain might



Harold Wilson with Baroness Falkender, his former political secretary Marcia Williams, pictured in 1975

Personal tensions rise inside No 10

TENSIONS between Harold Wilson's formidable secretary Marcia Williams and official Downing Street staff are highlighted by a bureaucratic dispute over the right to use government photocopiers during the election

While Downing Street accepted that an official should accompany Mr Wilson on his election tour in March. officials were concerned that equipment should not be used for party political purposes. The dispute has all the hallmarks of recent debates over civil

In a note dated March 7, 1966, at the start of the election campaign, Derek Mitchell, a Treasury high flier who was Mr Wilson's principal private secretary, is the one about the use of copying

The dispute may have been fanned by the intense personal hostility between Mr Mitchell and Ms Williams, Mr Wilson's political secretary. But Mr Mitchell was absolutely insistent that if any official machines had to be used, a note should be kept of all copies so that the Labour Party headquarters could be

In a separate note to Ms Williams, he suggested that the House of Commons the right charge.

But the issue was clearly galling for staff at No 10, and Mr Mitchell wrote to the Prime Minister: "It would obviously of course, be resumed after the election."

could be made as a last resort and I am glad to hear that you are hoping to get one of your own. I am sure that would be a real convenience to you."

In another circular to staff at 10 Downing Street, Mr Mitchell announced that Mr Wilson had agreed to drop informal arrangements whereby messengers called at the party HQ. Transport House, to collect mail. In the note, Mr Mitchell said: "This is because it would be improper for civil servants to assist the party authorities in this way lection peri-

With a note of prescience of Mr Wilson's victory at the poll, Mr Mitchell added: "The informal arrangement can.

THE YEAR IN BRIEF

Mao's swim marathon a 'fiction'

Diplomatic speculation about the health of Mao Tse Tung reached a frenzy after he was photographed swimming in the Yangtse, allegedly covering 15 kilometres. In a detailed dispatch from the office of the the British charge d'affaires in Peking, Leonard Appleyard said the Chinese were determined to show their leader in good health, and added: "We are now waiting for him to cover the same distance walking on the water." Chairman Man survived for another 10 years and did not die until 1976, at the age of 82.

MI5 saw 'Red plot' in strike

MI5 reported strong links between the Communist Pary and activists in the National Union of Seamen, which was involved in a protracted strike against the Government's strict prices and incomes policy. The strike caused food shortages. A military plan was devised - though not enforced men to move ships and run the

Fear of mutiny saved Gurkhas

Harold Wilson considered disbanding the 14,000-strong Gurkha Brigade to save £9 million a year, but was warned by officials: "The possibility of mutiny cannot be ruled out. They are capable of strong and violent reactions if they feel they have been unfairly treated." The next year. plans were announced to reduce the brigade. It now numbers 4.000.

Attempt to block review of murder

The Home Secretary, Sir Frank Soskice, attempted to block a judicial review over the murder conviction of Timothy Evans, saying that such an inquiry would cause resentment among the police. A review concluded that Evans was "probably innocent" of killing his wife and daughter, for which he had had been executed in 1950. The Queen granted a free pardon.

BBC berated over fledgling channel

The Prime Minister was scathing about the fledgling BBC2 at a time when the corporation was £10 million in debt. In correspondence with the BBC, which wanted to raise the £5 television licence fee by £1, he wrote: "I do not see why we needed to raise the licence fee to pay for a programme no one wants to see and many cannot see even if they wanted to."

Beatles beat the drum for Britain

The success of five concerts by the Beatles in Tokyo in July 1966 delighted British officials. They swept the youth of Japan off their feet," the chargé d'affaires at the embassy in Tokyo reported to the Foreign Office. "In sober truth, no recent event connected with the United Kingdom. with the sole exception of the British Exhibition in 1965, has

Alarm at callousness over Aberfan

A WHITEHALL suggestion that Harold Wilson's Government should say as little as possible about the Aberian disaster was rejected by the Prime Minister. He noted in green ink on an official memo: We must not look callous or complacent."

The documents chart a stream of meetings and discussions which began on October 22, the day after 116 children and 28 adults died when a coal pit's waste heap engulfed a school in a South Wales village. The discussions ended Il months later when Lord Robens agreed to continue in his £12,500-a-year post as

Board.

The newly released files include some from 1967. Two weeks before an official inquiry's report on the disaster. civil servants proposed that the Government say as little as possible" in response to the report and merely indicate that its findings would be carefully considered.

Mr Wilson noted on July 19: or in any way passing by on the other side. It is important to decide whether we 'accept'

chairman of the National Coal the report." He must have

官 建矿 员 四 73 组

"I hope ministers will have agreed on something to say before publication. We must not look callous or complacent

received an advance copy immediately after writing those words. He added at the bottom of the page: "I have now looked at the report. It is

devastating." Mr Wilson suggested that Cledwyn Hughes, the Secre-tary of State for Wales, should consider making a statement

to the Commons before publication, paying tribute to the tribunal, giving the main find-ings and saying that the Government accepted them. Then say the tribunal makes a number of recom-

mendations for future action, including legislation. The gently considering these recommendations," Mr Wilson wrote. "While it is exceptional to make a statement before publication, the fact that the House is adjourning [for the summer recess] - combined with the public concern and the devastating nature of the report - makes this desi-

ministers concerned are ur-

The Prime Minister effectively rejected a suggestion that the Government should accept Lord Robens's resignation. On July 28, a note recording the views of a group of ministers said the future of Lord Robens was bound to be the centre of speculation' when the report was pub-lished, although it did not blame him personally. "Our conclusion ... is that the chairman may feel compelled to resign and that if he offers his resignation, the Govern-

ment should accept it. There is not, in our view, a case against Lord Robens to justify his dismissal if he does not choose to resign. But he should not be pressed to stay." Mr Wilson marked the final passage and wrote in the margin: "I don't see the need for (this). It may be better to press Robens to hold an immediate meeting of the board to consider the report."

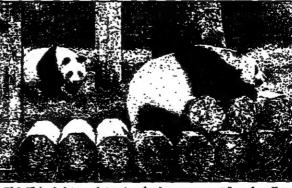
Duke's trip survived Argy-bargy

IF THE Duke of Edinburgh is skilled today in the art of creating headaches for government ministers, that may be through long practice.

The Duke's desire to go on a long, costly polo tour of Argentina in the autumn of 1966 provoked backroom bickering in Downing Street and White-hall as officials tried to work out how the Duke could meet the bills without breaching the Government's new austerity measures. These included a £50-a-head limit on cash that could be taken on a holiday abroad.

The Sir Humphreys of the day were sucked into a web of memos which betray their search for a palatable solution - allowing the Duke to attend the tournament without living like a backpacker, but also without offending the Queen's subjects, who were all tighten-

Luckily, the Argentine Gov-ernment was shouldering most of the costs of board and lodging for the visiting British and American teams. Some Whitehall officials feared a late cancellation would offend and with a little help from the



Chi-Chi, right, and An-An during a tryst at London Zoo

Panda match was food for satire

DOWNING STREET and the Foreign Office were alarmed that attempts to mate London Zoo's Chi-Chi with a panda in Moscow would be used to saririse a forthcoming Soviet visit by Harold Wilson.

In 1964, the Soviet Union dropped a British proposal to match-make Chi-Chi and An-An. But two years later Madame Fortseva, the Soviet Minister of Culture, was keen to pair off the pandas at Moscow Zoo.

The British Government's chief scientific adviser, Sir Solly Zuckerman, wanted

described the proposal to mate "the sex-starved female panda" Chi-Chi with An-An. "I am not sure the proposal is consistent with our policy of détente but we also have an interest in rapprochement. I recommend that this union be blessed," he wrote.

A more senior official, Mr Greenhill, gave warning of the comic potential: "I agree, but let us get this matter out of the headlines well before the Prime Minister goes to Moscow, otherwise the two visits will become mixed in the public mind and worked to death by the TV comics and satirists." The Foreign Secretary

scribbled: "Yes indeed!" Sure enough, nine days later, on January 27, a cartoon

approval from Michael Stewembassy in Buenos Aires. Lord Robens, who had been a Labour MP and fellow coupled with the Duke's art, then Foreign Secretary, for "what might well be conagreement to perform a few strued as a further illustration public duties to water down member of the postwar Labthe jet-set elements of the trip. of ice-breaking". our Government with Mr A Foreign Office note, head-Wilson, continued in the post he was able to set off, with or lined Anglo-Soviet Relations: in the Daily Mirror lamwithout the Prime Minister's until 1971. In 1993, aged 82, he The landslide took 144 lives. "We must not look complacent," Wilson wrote

England's World Cup victory strained relations with Argentina

WHILE the nation celebrated En- as "animals" and Fifa, the sport's gland's finest footballing hour, British ruling body, issued them with an diplomats found the World Cup something of a headache. The Foreign Office had to appease Argentina, which lost to the home side in a particularly acrimonious quarter-final. The surprise appearance of the North Koreans in the competition also caused concern.

Papers released today under the 30year role show how England's victory over the South American side raised leclings to a point where relations between the two countries could have been badly damaged. England won the march 1-0 after the Argentine captain, Antonio Rattin, was sent off by the German referee at Wembley in an exceptionally ill-tempered game. Afterwards Alf Ramsey, the England manager, described the Argentinians

official reprimand. However, a dispatch from the

British Embassy in Buenos Aires describes how the Argentine team was given a hero's welcome on their return. While thousands waited two hours in the rain to give the side a 'tumultuous" homecoming, the embassy received "hundreds" of abusive phone calls. Demonstrators gathered at the ambassador's house and extra guards had to be posted at a trade fair after gangs of youths "chanting and jeering" invaded the British stand, tore up photographs and pinned a

woman receptionist in a corner. The dispatch notes that even the more balanced Argentine newspapers were claiming that the World Cup had been snatched from their team by the finians who caused the Foreign Office

was part of a "biatant conspiracy to defraud the South Americans" and keep the trophy in Europe. "Most Argentinians quite sincerely believe that the way the whole tournament was managed, or mismanaged, was a dirty business and a stain on the British reputation for sportsmanship and honesty," the dispatch said.

While it would be a mistake to take all this too seriously, it will certainly not be laughed off or preached about It will not upset our normal good relations with the great majority of sensible Argentinians, but it has left a scar on our popular image which we shall not fail to be reminded of whenever, for one reason or another in the future, feelings become strained." However, it was not just the Argenconcern. The qualification of Communist North Korea for the finals threatened to spark a diplomatic incident. South Korea protested vigorously through its Ambassador in London, claiming that the team should not be allowed to set foot on British soil.

The Foreign Office agonised over when the North Korean flag could be flown and the country's national anthem sung. Moreover, the North Koreans

confounded the Football Association by beating Italy to win a place in the quarter-finals. Thank heaven that Portugal finally dispatched the giant killers and we



The Argentine captain Antonio Rattin, No 10, being sent off in the quarter-finals

IN THE TIMES



STRANGE FRUIT

Ginny Dougary meets Jeanette Winterson

in the Magazine



TV DINNERS

Frances Bissell on how to be a telly-chef in Weekend

Israel and PLO put finishing touches to Hebron accord

By Ross Dunn in Jerusalem and Our Foreign Staff

AFTER agreeing on terms for is withdrawal from most of rinued to haggle with the Palestine Liberation Organisation over prisoner releases and target dates for future West Bank handovers, Palestinian negotiators said. At the same time, Binyamin

Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, postponed his proposed summit with Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority, to deal with more pressing concerns, espethe Knesset of his austerity budget. Palestinian officials were told that the meeting could take place today.

Earlier. Mr Arafat said he was ready to meet Mr Netanyahu to seal an accord transferring 80 per cent of Hebron to Palestinian rule.

The remaining differences between the two sides include Mr Arafat's demand for a joint Palestinian police presence

around the Tomb of the Patriarchs, the burial place of Abraham and Sarah. The shrine is holy to both Muslims and Jews. Mr Arafat is also demanding that Israel commit itself to a timetable for further troop redeployments in rural areas of the West Bank.

Dr Dore Gold, Mr Netanyahu's diplomatic adviser, and other Israeli officials said last night that there was now little left for the negotiators to do. adding that the time had come for the leaders to hold another summit and complete the accord. "We have exhausted the negotiations. If there are differences, they should be discussed between the leaders themselves," one of Mr Netanyahu's aides said.

Mr Netanyahu has seemed isolated in recent days by a series of developments in his parliament aimed not just at his peace proposals, but at his plans for a Thatcherite economic revolution, including

budget cuts and privatisation. In addition, with six members of his Cabiner now prepared to Mr Netanyahu threw out a challenge to his critics. He announced that he would bring the agreement before the Knesset for approval in order to achieve a broader consensus. At the same time. officials of the right-wing Likud Party are trying to minimise the clear lack of

hey recalled the example of the late Prime Minister Menachem Begin, also a Likud leader, who made peace with Egypt. At the time Mr Begin was also forced to rely on the support of the opposition Labour Party to secure approval for the Camp David accords.

Tensions remained high in Hebron yesterday and Pales-tinian youths scuffled with Jewish settlers. Earlier in the day some settlers broke into a



Palestinian policemen train in the West Bank village of Dahariya yesterday. They will be deployed in Hebron after the partial withdrawal of Israeli security forces under an agreement said to be close last night

claiming it was Jewish property. Some were detained but later released.

In a separate development sterday, Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam of Syria said Washington had given

to secure an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. Mr Khaddam also ruled out a resumption of Syrian-Israeli peace negotiations as long as the Israeli Government did not change its hard-line

Israeli warplanes launched

rockets against suspected guerrilla targets in the hills ofsouthern Lebanon last night, guerrilla and pro-Israe-li militia sources said. ☐ Trial opens: The trial of

ists accused of inciting racial hatred opened in Jerusalem

that allegedly glorifies Baruch Goldstein, the American-born Jewish settler who opened fire during Friday prayers in He-bron's Al-Ibrahimi Mosque in 1994, killing 29 Palestin-

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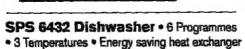
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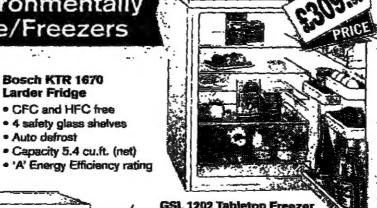
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Saddam turns on family in fear of betrayal

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein of Iraq is now so afraid there are traitors within his family that he is relying increasingly on non-relatives to be his closest political advisers, according to intelligence

The dominant group in the ruling hierarchy around the Iraqi leader now includes two cousins. The remainder have

no family connection. The attempted assassina-December 12 has underlined which Saddam has estab-

lished over the years to sustain his rule. The Takriti clan, which in the past has been the bedrock for Saddam's survival, has never been so divided. Two of the groups within the clan, the Ibrahimis, which includes his three brothers, and the Majidis, cousins on his father's side, are reported to hate Saddam and his two

sons, Uday and Kousai. Kousai, the younger son. heads Saddam's security apparatus. The Iraqi regime has at least five security and intelligence bodies, each of which has overlapping pow-ers. Kousai Saddam controls them all. He also commands the Republican Guards whose main task is to protect the

For many years, Saddam used his three brothers on his mother's side, Sabawi, Watban and Barazan, to help to prop up his regime. They occupied key positions in the leadership.

However, two of the broth-

ers, Sabawi, former head of the Iraqi national security forces, and Watban, a former Minister of the Interior, were distnissed last year and ac-cused by Saddam of corruption, exploitation of state property for personal purposes, cruelty and extortion. Barazan, formerly chief of Iraqi intelligence, was sacked recently and is now Baghdad's Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva. According

to intelligence sources, the main group of political advisers around the trace President Chief of Staff and now the Defence Minister, who has no political ambitions. Muhammad Amer Rashid, a former Deputy Minister of Industry and now the Petroleum Minis ter, and Amer Hamoudi Hasan al-Saadi, Saddam's adviser on industry who also tion of his son Uday on serves as the President's representative for clandestine

The two cousins who remain in the inner circle are Abdul Hamid Mahmoud, Saddam's personal secretary and chief of the apparatus responsible for his security. and Mouzahem Saab al-Hasan al-Takriti, chairman of the committee supervising the Fedayin of Saddam organisation, whose function is the defence of Iraq and achieve-

ments of "the revolution". The intelligence sources said that Sajida Kheiralla Tilfah, Saddam's wife and mother of Uday and Kousai, was currently under house arrest after the Iraqi President accused her of trying to assassinate him.

The sources said: "Saddam has succeeded in turning his family against him, despite the benefits of power they enjoyed and their common interest that he retains the



Paris-Madrid pact keeps Eta in check

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN SAN SERASTIAN

A NEW anti-terrorist alliance between Spain and France has ensured that 1996 will go down as the year in which Eta, the Basque separatist group, suffered its leanest period for

almost a quarter of a century. The arrest yesterday of five Eta radicals, members of a youth group dedicated to street violence in Navarre, only bolsters the belief that the Spanish police could at last

have Eta on the ropes. Five people have been killed by Eta in the past 12 months, fewer than in any year since 1972, when the group had barely begun its violent cam-paign for an independent Basque state. At the peak of its powers, Eta murdered 119 people in 1979 and 123 in 1980.
With a flurry of blows, including the acrest of six leading terrorists in the past six months, the French police

have boosted the morale of

their Spanish counternarts.

conservative administration took office in Madrid. been so helpful to Madrid and the Basque separatist group historically has used southern France as a refuge. French governments, until

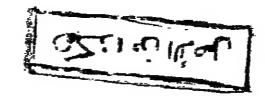
unprecedentedly close col-

laboration between the Span-

ish and French governments,

which began last May when a

Spain's judicial system, never believing that it had been Franco era. In addition, the "Basque problem" tended to be viewed in Paris with a hangover from the age of the Spanish dictatorship. Fran-cois Mitterrand and, before him. Valery Giscard d'Es-taing, played cat and mouse with Spain, offering only lukewarm collaboration in





BENEATH THE ICE

The chill that Europeans should really worry about

All Europe has been "sent to Siberia" for New Year, 1997. So deep a freeze has, for most British people, a frisson of pleasure about it, pictured from the well-warmed house, the images of Venice's frozen lagoon and the snow-laden palm-trees of Mediterranean resorts compensate in poetry for the treachery of icy roads and pavements and lend drama to the mere grey gloom of a typical British January. Further east, in Hungary where the thermometer dipped this week to a 76-year low or in fuel-starved Bulgaria and Romania, such temperatures are a matter of dread, of frostbite for many and death for society's most vulnerable. Yet when the meteorological thaw comes,

the prospects in most of Central and Eastern Europe look brighter than for many years. It is in Western Europe, where in 1990 forecasters enthused about the "European decade" to come, that winter gnaws deep into society's bones and electorates readily take the frozen ground as a metaphor for economic stagnation and the impotence or incompetence of politicians. France's Jacques Chirac, who yesterday lectured his compatriots that their gloom was irrational, is not alone in his frustration at their refusal to take comfort in sharply reduced inflation, somewhat improved public finances and the vote of confidence offered by Europe's booming stockmarkets. John Major, with better reason since Britain is now Western Europe's star economic performer, waits in vain for his political dividend. But until unemployment retreats from its current postwar record,

n tum

feel-good" sermons are a waste of breath. In France, 12.7 per cent are now on the official jobless roster - and Insée, the national statistical institute, expects this to rise to 13 per cent this year. Italy is nearly as badly off overall - and much worse off in the impoverished south. Spain's problems make Italy's seem light. Germany, where for historical reasons joblessness has a specially

sharp impact on the national psyche, has more than four million on the dole. In Sweden, if extensive state make-work schemes were excluded the official rate of 8 per cent would nearly double, to 15 per cent.

This last statistic underlines a troubling truth. With European Union governments spending £130 billion a year on employmentrelated schemes, it has never been more evident that state efforts at direct jobcreation work against the grain of the markets which it should be the concern of governments to set free. It diverts energy from what the State can do: temper the violence of economic cycles by expanding deficits in recession and tightening policy as growth picks up; and increase labour flexibility by overhauling social welfare systems. But in most EU countries, macro-economic flexibility has been sacrificed to the political goal of meeting the 1999 target for EMU. The pain of public belt-tightening at a time of low growth meanwhile makes workers more reluctant than ever to surrender benefits which they see as their remaining cushion against the new insecurity.

"Europe" is increasingly seen as a straitjacket, with severe consequences including the growing popularity of ex-tremist parties. Seeing this, some in France, such as Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, architect of the EMS, would now sacrifice the franc fort for higher growth. This week Gerhard Schröder, a contender for leadership of the German Social Democrat Party, also broke ranks to say that "incredible social and political friction" is too high a price for EMU. But such dissent is still rare: Europe's politicians cling to EMU with the fatalism of early Christian martyrs. The EU is the dropout in a global economy which is expected to grow this year by a healthy 4.1 per cent. When its politicians finally feel the icicles down their spines, it will be time to celebrate the arrival of a new year, not before.

LIEDER WRITER

Two hundred years ago: a great songwriter first filled his lungs

Judged by normal standards Franz Schubert was a dismal failure. The 12th of 18 children born into a penniless Viennese schoolmaster's family, he lived most of his life in squalid poverty - unemployed, scrounging off friends. Attempts to sell his music ended in flasco. The only publicconcert of his music in his lifetime produced not a single review; Paganini was playing in town on the same night. Even Schubert's

love life was a sad business, emotionally unstable and medically disastrous. Whether syphilis hastened his death from typhoid at 31 is disputed but it certainly led to the black depressions that clouded his last years.

All of which proves only one thing: genius cannot be judged by normal standards. On January 31, the 200th anniversary of Schubert's birth, the world will celebrate not a failure, but the greatest songwriter of all: a man incapable of breathing without composing, and incapable of composing without spinning a golden thread of melody.

Considering how rarely Schubert received a commission, the vast amount of music he produced in his short life is astonishing. There are nine symphonies (including two, the sublime Unfinished and the majestic Great C Major, that rank with the best; nine operas; dozens of choral works; and a huge quantity of wonderful chamber pieces.

But his 600 songs must take precedence. They were dashed off at a feverish rate. During 1815 alone, while Europe's more militant spirits were slogging it out in the Belgian mud, the teenage Schubert wrote 144 superb songs, including eight in a day. Pop groups who think they are being wildly creative if they produce an album's worth of songs in a year should take note. So fast did tunes come to Schubert that he often ran out

of lyrics. He set his favourite Goethe and Schiller poems up to six times each.

Before he came along, the song was regarded as a lightweight form. Schubert showed that it could carry deep emotions without sacrificing its melodic grace or miniature essence. And his songs took music to the heart of the Romantic movement.

Like much Romantic art, they portray life as a journey through landscape. But Schubert's is a landscape of aural memory, in which familiar sounds — the huntsman's horn, a stream, the wind in trees - take on profound spiritual

significance. Schubert was the first songwriter to realise that music need not slavishly mirror the words it accompanies; indeed, it may be at its most unsettling when it evokes something quite

contrary to the surface meaning. Nowhere is this power to disturb at a subliminal level more evident than in his last song-cycle. Winterreise: a poet's surreal journey across a frozen landscape towards death. It is one of the great testaments of despair, and its influence extends deep into our own century's music, in the troubled symphonies of Mahler and Shostakovich

and the harrowing operas of Alban Berg.

It ends with the sound of an organ-grinder churning out a tawdry little scrap of a tune. In his darkest moments Schubert, who knew neither fame nor fortune nor lasting love, must have felt himself to be that organgrinder: a missing person whom nobody misses, shuffling along a road to oblivion in a bleak midwinter. But the tunes of this organ-grinder have echoed across the continents and down the centuries. Two hundred years on, Schubert's heavenly melodies live more securely in the hearts of music-lovers than he would ever have dared to hope.

AULD FREDDIE FRINTON

For the Germans, New Year means Dinner for One

For the puritan English New Year's Day brings new calendars and a resolution to practise giving up things for Lent. All the British see New Year in by simulating a knowledge of the other verses of Auld Lang Syne and by men in kilts crooning and jigging on television. For Scots Hogmanay now entails carrying bottles of whisky instead of lumps of coal in their overcoat pockets into other people's homes. And making their calls by taxi. And so for most natives New Year comes in with a hangover, which may still be being worked on north of the border this morning on Neer Day. But for the Germans new year means Freddie Frinton.

For this forgotten English music hall comedian's film, Dinner for One, has become a cult of the German new year festivities. By switching channels on television a serious German celebrant of New Year's Eve can view his film over and over again until midnight. It lasts only 17

minutes. And it tells a simple tale. Miss Sophy is celebrating her 90th birthday with a party for her admirers. But they are all dead. So her butler stands in for each of them in turn, as well as serving a sort of Mad Butler's Tea Party. As Admiral Von Schneider he clicks his heels, as Mr. Winterbottom he raises his glass, as Mr Pomeroy he gazes amorously at his hostess. And he has to drink his toasts in sherry. champagne, and other wines and spirits at

the rate of four glasses to every one of Miss Sophy's. Not surprisingly he stumbles over the tiger skin rug as he brings in each new course. And after dinner, as he staggers up the stairs with Miss Sophy in his arms, he asks her deadpan whether it is to be the same procedure this year as usual.

The point of any anniversary ritual is that it should be the same every year. So the German businessman who saw Dinner for One as a music hall sketch on Blackpool pier 33 years ago, and had it filmed as a typical example of English humour, was creating an instant tradition. It combines the necessary elements of nostalgia, sentimentality and northern over-indulgence for the ending of the year. It confirms stereotypes about British class and reticence as satisfactorily as 'Allo 'Allo did about German and French

manners for British viewers. All traditions were once new. The Christmas tree and stockings were imported by our German monarchs and their consorts. Goose rather than turkey is the more traditional new year bird. But in our electronic age, the traditions of the future are continually being created on our screens and tapes. So, just for a change next new year, British and German programme planners should exchange Freddie Frinton for Morecambe and Wise and The Sound of Music National stereotypes should laugh at themselves once in a while. Because everyone else does. The second secon

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Invitation to pray for Africa in 1997

From the Director of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and others

Sir, We write as a group of individuals from for deeply involved in) Africa. who are working in our various ways in support of conflict resolution, economic and social justice and the realisation of basic human rights standards everywhere in that great contin-

We are also believers in the power of prayer and we would like, through your columns, to invite people of any faith to join with us - preferably each day - in 1997 to pray for Africa in these simple words:

God bless Africa; Guard her people; Guide her rulers; And give her peace.

MALCOLM HARPER, Director, United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, CHARLES AMONE. ALEXANDER BORG OLIVIER, United Nations Office and Information Centre, London. KEITH CLEMENTS, for Britain and Ireland. TREVOR HUDDLESTON. WANJIRU KIHORO, MICHAEL TAYLOR. 3 Whitehall Court, SWI. December 30.

PoWs in Italy

From Mr J. Keith Killby

Sir, Major Sam Derry (Obituary, December 27), Monsignor O'Flaherty, the British Minister to the Vatican and his "Figaro" of a butler all did ex-cellent work hiding and provisioning Allied PoWs in Rome after the Italian Armistice of September 1943.

However, thousands of PoWs "on the run" in Italy kept to the remote countryside. Some 3,000 of us escaped from a camp near the Adriatic coast two or three days after the Armistice. Within 24 hours we all, it seemed, had been spontaneously hidden and fed by the Italian countrypeople.

To record and, in a small way, to compensate for that generosity and courage, the Monte San Martino Trust was founded by former PoWs to give study bursaries in this country to young Italians. In six years some sixty bursaries have been awarded, mostly to descendants of those who helped us - four of whom had grandparents shot for so doing.

Yours very truly. J. KEITH KILLBY (Honorary Secretary). Monte San Martino Trust, Flat 7, 18 Lambolle Road, NW3. December 27.

Fair shares in business

From Mr John Argenti

Sir, I am at a loss to understand what the Centre for Tomorrow's Company is saying ("Boardrooms too biased towards the shareholders", report. Business, December 30). Are they suggesting that a company should not be run for the benefit of the shareholders (ie. with just one bottom line) but for the benefit of all the stakeholders - in other words with five bottom lines, one each for the employees, the cus-tomers, the shareholders, the suppliers and the community? What a niehtmare.

The idea that companies "should be run for all concerned" has always been highly seductive; but, with few exceptions, several decades of nationalisation, communes, kibbutzim, mutuals, co-operatives, communism and the "social market" generally suggest that, for reasons too numerous to mention here, it simply does not work. Heaven protect us from another experiment on these lines.

Yours sincerely, JOHN ARGENTI, Pettistree Lodge, Woodbridge, Suffolk December 30.

Melting pots

From Mr Richard and Mr Peter Harden

Sir, It is a sharne that self-confessed New Yorker, Mr Irwin Stelzer ("A tale of gastronomy in two cities". December 19) compares the restaurant culture of the Big Apple with a London which does not exist.

Anyone who says, for example, that 'Londoners' infatuation with Thai cooking is attributable in good part to the opening here of New York's Vong" might fairly be asked to explain how f is that the effect preceded its alleged cause by about half a decade.

And anyone who largely blames service deficiencies on the fact that many London staff come from Italy, where casualness has a meaning all its own" seems oblivious to the melting pot of nationalities represented by London's waiting staff (among which Italians seem nowadays to be, if anything, under-represented).

Yours faithfully. RICHARD HARDEN, PETER HARDEN (Editors), Harden's Guides. 29 Villiers Street, WCZ. December 23.

Welfare of the child paramount in adoption process

From Professor Emeritus

Sir. The Prime Minister's plea to privatise adoption treport. December 27) will do nothing more than replace the anties of a handful of politically cor-rect individuals with political doctrine, none of which has anything to do with the welfare of children.

For over twenty years now and because of social and demographic changes very few babies are being adopted each year. This is unlikely to change.

Britain, however, has possibly the best record anywhere, and certainly compared with continental Europe, in the way it has found permanent adoptive homes for older children and chil-dren with special needs. This has largely been due to the dedication of thousands of committed social workers, in both voluntary and local authority social services departments, who developed new skills and new ways of helping children to start a new life in new families. The research evidence about these achievements is irrefusable.

The example from the United States, where independent and third party adoptions have been allowed to flourish, has exposed the exploitation

and sometimes covert sale of children to an extent only surpassed by some developing countries. Adoption policy and practice need known to be good for children, rather than what is seen to be good for the market and the interests of the adults. A return to the abuses of the last century is not the answer. The answer is to consolidate and build on the achievements so far.

to be based on what is empirically

Yours faithfully J. TRISELIOTIS (International Social Sciences Institute. University of Edinburgh), 20 Braid Farm Road. Edinburgh 10. December 30.

From Mr Malcolm Hanney

Sir. You report Sir William Uning as saying that the adoption process ought to be carried out by government and not delegated to other authorities. This appears to me somewhat blinker-

My wife and I adopted our children when we were living in the United States. We worked through a charitable organisation that put the interests of the child first, those of the birthmother second, and of the adoptive parents third. The birthmother had a real say in who would be the parents of her child. In such circumstances, adoption can represent a real alternative to abortion which, as you report December 28), was a choice taken by 170,000 women in the UK last year.

The Royal Family carried out a total

raised £20 million this year for under-

privileged young people, the homeless

It must not be forgonen that, in ad-

dition to the duration of these engage-

ments, there is also the time taken in

preparation, whether it he a visit, in-

Except for Christmas Day and Eas-

ter Day, the Queen effectively never

has a day off from the official red

boxes which pursue her everywhere.

Again, the Queen Mother has contin-

ued to work at the remarkable age of

Overseas visits are packed with en-

gagements. In the case of the Oueen's

and Prince Philip's visit to Thailand in

October, five gruelling days were spent in heat and humidity, with no

two people who are well over normal

time to accimatise; tough going to

and disabled.

vestiture or speech.

retirement age

Yours faithfully

TIM O'DONOVAN.

As a councillor on Bath and North East Somerset Council and a member of its adoption and fostering panel. I know how complex the issues of children in care and adoption are. I do not believe that the current arrangements should never be reviewed or questioned but we must be careful not to allow political correctness to have an undue influence.

The comments of the Professor of Social Work at East Anglia Univer-sity, that giving up a boby for adoption can present long-term mental health problems and "has a similar impact to being sexually assaulted". are depressing to say the least. Adoption has, unfortunately, become a less straightforward uption than abortion for a pregnant woman unable or unwilling to keep her child.

My wife and I will try to convey to our children mow aged a and 3) how difficult it was for their birthmothers to go through pregnancy when the choice of abortion was available, and to choose and trust us to be the adoptive parents of their children. We can hope that our children, when they are older, will love and respect their hinhmothers for making that choice and giving them life.

Yours faithfully MALCOLM HANNEY. Magna House, Banle Lane, Chew Magna, Somerset.

Royal engagements

From Mr Tim O'Donovan

Sir I have carried out a survey of the official engagements undertaken by the Royal Family during 1996, as reported in the Court Circular.

	A	В	C	D	E
The Queen	155	79	275	500	70
Duke of Edinburgh	172	149	43	364	25
Queen Mother	38	11	19	28	
Prince of Wales	227	Si	103	417	16
Duke of York	52	13	11	76	53
Prince Edward	49	+1	22	115	53
Princess Royal	307	113	94	514	9
rincess Margaret	86	22	6	114	18
Duke of Gloucester	107	30	14	151	76
Duchess of Gloucester	87	20	15	128	18
Duke of Kent	136	45	25	206	51
Duchess of Kent	53	6	6	65	10
rincess Alexandra				119	

official visits, opening ceremonies and other engagements

B receptions, lunches, dinners and ban-

C other engagements, including investi

D total number of engagements in UK
E engagements on official overseas tours.

Twenty-eight engagements by the Princess of Wales were recorded in the Court Circular, prior to the decree ab-solute of her divorce, declared on Aug-

Mariners. The Avenue, Datchet, Berkshire. December 31.

Gulf War illness From Mr Tam Dalyell.

MP for Linlithgow (Labour)

Sir. If Earl Baldwin of Bewdley and the former Speaker and their co-signatories (letter, December 25) had glanced through Hansard they would have noticed that the Opposition Defence Spokesman, David Clark, first raised what is now known as Gulf War syndrome on June 10, 1993. Moreover the Gulf War Veterans Association was formed as a result of a meeting in his office in mid-1994.

If there is to be "credit" it should go to the GWVA. True, the Countess of Mar had asked many questions on sheep-dip and organophosphates.

mentioning a possible connection with Gulf War syndrome, in a Lords debate on December 12, 1994. On December 30, 1994, Mrs Edwina Currie had a Commons adjournment debate specifically devoted to Gulf War ill-

I was only one of a number of MPs of all parties who not only put questions but saw ministers about individual constituency cases of illness resulting from service in the Gulf.

It is simply preposterous to suggest that the House of Lords made the running". They didn't. Members of the Commons did.

Sir, Giles Whittell's report from Salt

Lake City. "Mormons prusper as

pews and coffers fill" (December 26).

is a gross misrepresentation of what

by his own admission is "one of the

fastest-growing creeds in the world".

His constant references to "financial

profitability" as a motivating force be-

hind the Mormon leaders is an insult

to the ten million members world-

As a lifelong British Mormon I have

received back from the church infin-

itely more than I have ever given ives.

I do pay fithing), both spiritually and

In the morally bankrupt society we

find ourselves in, I would have

thought a financially solvent and mor-

ally steadfast church should be wel-

221 Noel Road, West Acton, W3.

Sir, Conjugating mensa (the table not

the organisation), aged 8, I wondered

at the need for a vocative, believing it

unlikely that any sane person would

Years later, working for the plan-

ning committee of an inner-London

borough, I realised how prescient the

Romans were fletters, December 18, 23

Perhaps this accounts for the Mor-

comed with open arms.

Yours etc. TAM DALYELL House of Commons,

From Mr Julian Bell

wide

financially.

mons' success.

Yours sincerely.

JULIAN BELL

December 27.

address furniture.

Yours faithfully.

Cairnbrook,

Isle of Wight

December 30.

SHAUN EVELEGH,

Fairy Road. Seaview,

and 30).

Mormon success

Message of hope

From Mr Simon Bird

Sir, I am very pleased that during the last few weeks The Times has given space to issues in which I am involved and which are close to my heart: the Alpha course originating from Holy Trinity. Brompton: the Family Caring Trust parenting course: and further debate of abortion issues. But I was particularly touched by the leading article on Christmas Eve. which gave a sensitive and moving account of the truth, significance and relevance of Jesus's birth.

The press is often criticised for fuelling a decline in society's values by its negative and destructive slant. But in these instances The Times is to be congratulated for giving publicity to some of the means by which, in my view, a whole and healthy society may be created by renewed relationships with God and in the home.

Yours sincerely. SIMON BIRD. 71 Wilderness Road. Earley, Reading. Berkshire. December 30.

Gas and gaiters

From Mr W. Woodruff

Sir. Replying to a complaint, a lener I received from British Gas starts: "Further to our convocation on 10 Decem-

Well, I suppose it might work. Yours in faith,

W. WOODRUFF. Great Oaks, 36 Court Road. lekenham, Middlesex. December 24.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

of 3.712 official engagements at home and overseas. Charities are important beneficiaries of this work: for example, the Prince of Wales's charities

Royal succession From Mr Stuart Dunsford

Sir. It is doubtful whether Kaiser Wilhelm II would really have succeeded to the British throne in August 1901 had Lord Archer's proposed rules for the royal succession been in place (letters, December 17, 20, 26).

Under these rules the Princess Royal. as the eldest of Queen Victoria's children, would indeed have been heir to the throne, but it is unlikely that, as the heir, she would have been married to a prince in line of succession to the Prussian crown.

She would have remained in Britain being prepared for her destiny, as was her mother before her accession. Any marriage would probably have been to a minor prince, who would be agreeable to spending the rest of his life in this country.

Yours faithfully, JART DUNSFORD 183 Sheen Lane, East Sheen, SW14. December 30.

Profit margin

From Mr Gerhard Both. CEng, MIMechE

Sir, I have been looking for a long time for such a good example of the private sector's greed for profit as that presented by your report "Eritrea labours to put historic railway back on the tracks" (December 2!). A private consortium (of "experts"?)

presented the Eritrean Government with an estimate of £250 million for the restoration of the railway; public ownership managed to do the job successfully with only £3 million. A mark-up of more than 8,000 per

cent by private enterprise? I am not surprised. In my own experience this is not too unusual.

Yours sincerely. G. BOTH. o Newick Close, Seaford, East Sussey. December 24.

Forever young?

From Mr Christopher Godley

Sir, I was delighted to read the letter from my father. Lord Kilbracken, on the subject of "fathers who smoke" (December 30). In it, he describes himself as a smoking father with young children.

Tomorrow is my 52nd birthday! CHRISTOPHER GODLEY.

Four Firs, Marley Lane. Haslemere, Surrey. New Year's Eve.

Young as you feel From Mr Robert A. Crawford

Sir. Mr Donald Cross (letter, December 19) raises a matter of relativity over the term "elderly" for a man of 62. I, 77, am asked to fill Help the Aged envelopes.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT A. CRAWFORD. 8 Acacia Avenue. Ruislip, Middlesex.

Sands of time **Fully furnished**

From Mr S. B. C. Evelegh From Miss Gillian Ross

> Sir, It is, I fear, true that the older one gets, the quicker time passes. "Infinitesimal" is the only way I can describe the gap between the end of one football season and the start of the next.

But wait - in the space of what seemed no longer than 24 hours "leaves on the line" became "the

wrong type of snow". Time is slipping away before my very eyes.

Yours etc. GILLIAN A. ROSS, 20 Turners Meadow Way, Beckenham, Kent. December 30.

adride

SOCIAL NEWS

Prince Edward, as Patron, will attend a concert given by the National Youth Orchestra of Scor-land at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on Sunday, January 5.

New Year's Day birthdays

Dr Jack Birks, company chairman, 77: Lord Colwyn, 55: Sir James Crane, former HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 76: Mr John Fuller, writer, 60; Lord Kingsland, QC, 55: Baroness Lloyd of Highbury, 69: Sir Albert McQuarrie, former MP, 79: Dr James Merriman, former chairman, National Computing Centre. man. National Computing Centre. 82: Mr James Moorhouse, MEP. 75; Colonel P.A. Porteous, VC. 79; Mrs Patience Purdy, former president. National Council of Women of Great Britain, 68; Professor R.A. Raphael. FRS. chemist. 76; Mr Lawrence Rowe, cricketer. 48; Mr J.D. Salinger, nuthor, 78; Lord Swansea, 72

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Lorenzo de Medici (The Magnificenty, Florence, 1449; Katherine Philips, poet, London, 1631; Paul Revere, American pa-triot, Boston, Massachusetts, 1735; Maria Edgeworth, novelist. Blackbourton. Oxfordshire. 1767; Arthur Hugh Clough, poet. Liverpool, 1819: Sir James Frazer. anthropologist, Glasgow, 1854; Henry Handel Richardson (penname of Ethel Florence Lindesay novelist Melbourne, 1870; E.M. Forster, novelist, London, 1879; William Fox. film producer. Hun-gary, 1879; Martin Niemoller, anti-Nazi priest. Lippstadt. Germany. 1892; J. Edgar Hoover, founder of the FBI, Washington, 1895; H.A.R. (Kim) Philiby, British double agent. Ambala, India, 1911; Jack de Manio, broadcaster, 1914.

DEATHS: William Wycherley. dramatist, London, 1716: James Francis Edward Stuart, the "Old Pretender", Rome, 1766; Johann Christian Bach, composer. London, 1782; Heinrich Hertz, physicist, Bonn, 1894; Sir Edwin utyens, architect. London. 1944: Maurice Chevalier, actor and singer, Paris, 1972: John Aloysius Costello, Prime Minister of Ireland 1948-51 and 1954-57, 1976.

The Daily Universal Register Itenamed The Times on January 1. 1788), was founded, 1785. Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland came into

The Commonwealth of Australia was established with Edmund Barton as the first prime minister.

Farthing ceased to be legal tender. Britain entered the Common Mar-

Church of Scotland

The Rev John Birnell, to full-time Chaplain at Perth Royal

Ordination and induction The Rev Jenniler Booth, Part-time Associate to South Leith, Edinburgh.

The Rev Linda J Broadley to Caputh, Clunie and Kinclaven The Rev Dennis S Rose, to Kirkmahne. **Translations**

The Rev A David K Arnott, from Netherlee, Glasgow to Hope Park. St Andrews.

The Rev Kevin MacKenzie, from Ochiltree w Stair to Westwood. East Kilbride.

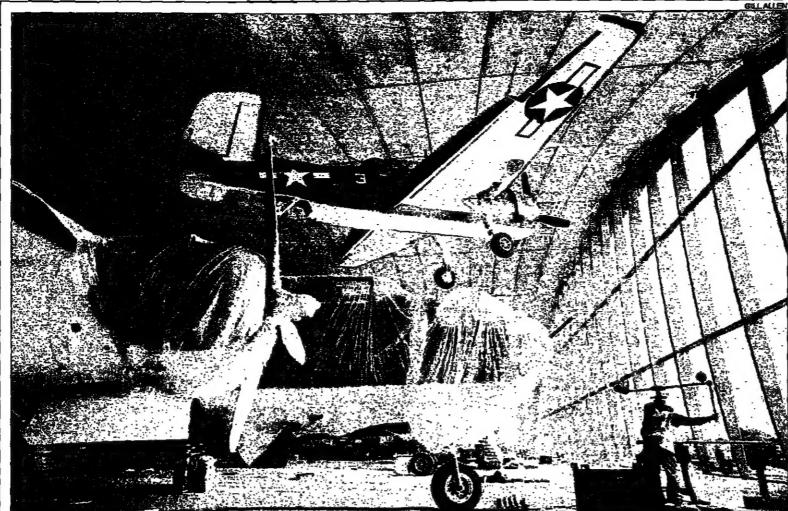
The Rev Harry J Brown, from Benholm and Johnshaven w Garvock St Cyrus to Menzieshill, Dundee. Retirements

The Rev H Marshall Gibson, from St Thomas' Gallowgate, Glasgow, The Rev Peter Youngson, from St Andrew's, Kirriemuir, The Rev Alexander Muir, from The Rev Philip Earnshaw, from Pollokshields, Glasgow.

The Rev John M M Macarthur, from St Columba, Glasgow. The Rev Gilbert Thomson, from Christ's Kirk, Glennyhes. Auxiliary Minister ordained The Rev James H Simpson, to

Appointments

Nuffield Trust for the Forces of the Crown Alderman Sir Brian Jenkins has been appointed a Trustee with effect from December 31.



A view from inside the new hangar designed by Sir Norman Foster to house American war planes at Duxford air museum

£11m air museum is ready for takeoff

By JOHN SHAW

CHRISTMAS greetings are still scrawled in the cockpit window dust of a B52 bomber and workmen's litter covers the floor, but work is about to finish on one of the most striking new museums in Europe.

The Ell million American air museum at Duxford near Cambridge, designed by Sir Norman Foster, will be completed next month and formally handed over to the Imperial War Museum. The interior will then be fitted out ready for an opening in June

ог Јщу. It will house 21 historic American military aircraft from a First World War biplane to supersonic jets used in the Gulf War. Some exhibits are suspended from the ceiling as if in flight like a black U2 spy plane which carried out missions over China in the

early Sixties. The building is a tribute not only to the rise of American global air power but is also intended as a memorial to the 30,000 US airmen who were killed flying from British bases, including Duxford, during the Second World

The scheme is a flagship project for the Heritage Lottery Fund. Frank Crosby, marketing manager at Duxford, said it was the first major museum construction project completed from start to finish with E6.5 million of lottery money. "The fund

A MANUSCRIPT which could be

"a Rosetta Stone for Andean

scholarship" has been found in an

Italian archive. Titled a History

and Rudiments of the Language of the Peruvians, the manuscript, if genuine, could provide a key to the lost language of the quipus, the knotted cords used by the Inka for

communication through their

The document claims that "there

is a general quipu used by every-one for numbering and daily

communication, and another

quipu for keeping all religious and

caste secrets, known only to the Kings, the Virgins of the Sun, the Priests, and the Philosophers.

Although the Spanish conquis-tadors destroyed as many as they

could, some survived, and Father

Blas Valera, a half-Inka Jesuit. was

said to be able to read them easily.

17th century by two Italian Jesuits.

Anello Oliva, together with three

pages of drawings by Valera, the

nine folios of text and their later binding are in the family papers of

the Neapolitan historian Clara Miccinelli. She published a short

Purportedly written early in the

provided the bulk of the money with the rest coming from private sources. They ranged from Saudi Arabia which contributed \$1 million (about £600,000) to mailshots among servicemen and companies in the United States. We still need \$1 million."

Looking out over the exhibits, many shrouded in protective plastic sheeting, he said: "We are confident about raising the money. This is a major scheme which will be one of the finest museums in Europe."

The aircraft have been arranged under a huge pre-cast concrete span with massive windows at one end which can lift up to allow exhibits to be changed. Computer-aided design techniques were used to arrange the aircraft on the 77,000 sq ft space before they were moved in before Christmas.

Sir Norman has designed the building as a section of a torus, a geometric structure the public will recognise as being like part of an aircraft wing tip, sliced across at its thickest section.

Visitors will enter at mezzanine level looking straight into the B52 cockpit. The bomber flew on operations in the Vietnam War and has a 185ft wing span. It is both the biggest exhibit and the centre piece of the

Mr Crosby said: "We are not just

Jesuit papers may hold key to Inka language

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

cha-ca-mac: "pacha" also meant "time" in Quechua, and could be denoted by indicating with one and

two knots the first two syllables in

Cumis' part of the manuscript

the key symbol for the god's name.

includes a brief list of word keys and their quipu equivalents. The drawings said to be by Blas Valera

purport to show how the Inka

Princess" was written, and a minu

fragment accompanying the docu-ment is said to encode lines from

Equally controversial, however,

are the historical claims the docu-ment makes. Oliva says that

Francisco Pizarro, who conquered Peru by capturing the Inka em-peror Arahuallpa, in fact carried

out his coup by poisoning the Inka generals with wine laced with

He also claims that Valera lived

for nearly a quarter century be-

yond his supposed death in 1596, and that Valera's history of the

lished by the famous historian

Guaman Poma de Ayala under his

own name. Valera is said to have

iquest of the linkas was pub-

the poem.

book on them. Quipu: The Talking Knots of the Mysterious Inka in

1989, but it received little academic

Laurencich Minelli of the Univer

sity of Bologna, convinced of its

authenticity, has brought the

manuscript to public attention

again, but some noted Inka experts

Professor Gary Urton of Colgate

University notes that most

Peruivan documents are "boring and uninformative", while this one

wraps up the whole of Peruvia

history in a dozen pages, a highly remarkable and therefore sus-

picious document in its complete-

ness and its insistence on its own

The document claims that lit-

erary quipus were written with

woven symbols and knotted cords:

each symbol was a word key, for a

limited range of terms that could be changed using particles and suffixes. The number of knots

below the symbol showed which

syllable of the word was to be

The name of the Inka deity Pachacamac would be divided Pa-

Professor Laura



The earliest exhibit: a biplane from the First World War

going to say: 'Here's a B52,' we are going to explain both its role in American air power and how that fits into the history of the twentieth

The aircraft went into service in 1954 and would still be on front line duty well into the next century, he. "It's a very durable aircraft, nothing else has come close to that record."

The 4,500ft Duxford runway is the shortest ever used for a B52 landing and the massive plane is the only one of its type on public display outside

> authorship in an illustration of the quipu in Poma's book: the quipu shown encodes the opening starza

Inka specialists are divided

about the authenticity of the docu-

ment: apart from Professor Urton's scepticism, Professor Juan

Ossio of the Catholic University in

Lima points out that Valera would

have lacked the knowledge of

southern Peru shown in the text. Professor John Rowe of the University of California at Berke-

ley, the doven of Inka scholars

believes that the manuscript is "not a lake, though its historical content is rather spurious: both Valera and

Oliva played with the truth to serve their political goals".

Nevertheless, if it does offer

key to the quipus, it would be "a tremendous advance". Professor

Urton said; but until technical tests

have been done "we simply have to withhold judgement. If we admit a document written in recent de-

cades into the literature, we risk

diverting ourselves from the seri-

Source: Archaeology Vol.49 No.6:

ous study of Inka writing".

of the Sumac Nusta.

Former President Bush has given permission for a Grumman Avenger torpedo bomber to be painted in the colours of the version he flew in the South Pacific during the Second World War. It hangs from the ceiling near the UZ

But the exhibits are not without their ironies. On the ground below is an SA2 missile of the type used by the Russians to shoot down the spy plane flown by Francis Gary Powers which caused an international incident when he was caught spying over the Afghan Soviet border in May

Latest wills

John George Knowles Kennedy, of London Wil, left £4,080,288 net. He left £10,000 to the Canter Kesarch Campaign and £10,000 to Hira Milne to be spent in any way that gives her plessure, rather than saved, and with thanks for the care and love so recently enjoyed.

Blanche Theresa Kerman, London Wi, left £4,250,045.

John Ralph Bankes, of Pulham, London SW6, left El, 416,757 net.

He left his residuary estate to the Royal Agricultural Society of England

Ronald Leopold Demoth, of Fara-

ham, Surrey, left El, 484,658 net.
He left Es,000 each to Dr Barnardo's
Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospica,
Old People's Welfare (Farnham),
Cheizenbam College Charjtable
Trust and Trigity Hall, Cambridge.

William Keith Robinson, of Harrogane, North Yorkshire, left

Dorothy Evelyn Troughton, of Poulton Le Pyide, Lancashire, left

530,318 net.

She left shares in her estate to the Whitegate Drive Baptist Church, Blackpool, Baptist Missionery Society. British Epikepsy Society. Deaf Society, Save the Children Fund and Salvation Army.

Robert Walker Cox, retired char-

Audrey Muriel Gardner of Sunninghill, Berkshire, left 1732,732 net.

tingham, left £579,004 net.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.P. Allman and Miss R.D.M. Austin

The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Mr and Mrs. Ray Allman, of Far Poden. Honeybourne, Worcester-shire, and Rebecca, daughter of Sir Anthony and Lady Austin, of Stanbury Manor, Morwenstow, Cornwall.

Mr R.B. Charlion and Miss G.V.L. Kelly

and Miss G.V.L. Reny
The engagement is amnounced
between Raiph, son of Mr R.B.
Charlton, of Linnel Wood,
Northumberland, and Georgina.
Cruddas, of Stalybridge, Cheshire,
and Georgina, daughter of Sir
David and Lady Kelly, of Stanton
Better, Northumberland.

Mr M.J.S. Cook

The engagement is announced hetween Michael, younger son of Mrs A.M. Cook, of Victoria. London, and the late Mr J.R. Cook, of Ottom, Wirnal, and Vanessal, daughter of Lieutenam Colonel-and Mrs R.M.W. Drake, of Brambridge, Hampshire.

Mr T.H.M. Crabtree end Miss A.L. Henre The engagement is announced between Tim, only son of Major General and Mrs Derek Crabtree.

of Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, and Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hammond, of Durley Mill, Hampshire. Mr E.F. Duscan and Miss J.S. McIonsh

The engagement is announced between Euan Duncan, LLB, only son of Mr and Mrs Walter Duncan, of Forres, Moray, and Juliet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs. Alastair, McIntosh, of Gullane, East Lothian.

Mr A.J. Elliott and Mist F.S.R. Wilson The engagement is announced between Alan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Elliott, of Sheffield, Yorkshire, and Florence, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Wilson, of Kenilworth,

Mr J.C. Francis-Jones and Miss A-R. Molloy

and Miss A-R. Molloy
The engagement is announced
between James, elder son of
Captain and Mrs Jake FriercisJones, of Woodlawn House, Zeals,
Wiltshire, and Anna-Rose, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony
Molloy, of Crossogue House,
Thurles, Co Tapperary, Ireland:

Mr C. Holst-Rosess and Miss L.B. Frost

The engagement is announced between Carl, younger son of Dr Rolv and Dr June Holst-Roness, of Roly and Dr June Holst-Roness, of Harstad, Norway and Premown, Sierra Leone, and Laure, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.S. Frost, of Hadonsowh

Mr G.W. Kenton and Miss E.M. Earle

The engagement is assounced between Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Kennon of West Benington, Dorset, and Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Earle, of Ryme Intrinsect

Mr J.W.A. Livesey and Miss J.R. Milles the engagement is amounted between John, son of Judge R.J.D. Livesey, QC, and Mrs Livesey, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs

W. Miller, both of Southport." Mr D.N.J. Logne and Miss B.A. Stally The engagement is announced between Decian, son of Mr and

Mrs Seamus Logue, of Birmingham, and Boudics, daughter of Mrs Ann Stally and the late Rev Arthur Stally, of Alcester, Warwickshire. Mr S.J. Maslen

and Miss IL Cope The engagement is announced between Steven, elder son of Mr and Mrs LG. Maslen, of Iver, South Buckinghamshire, and laney, daughter of Group Captain and Mrs A.W. Cope of Medmenham, Buckinghumshire.

Mr M.A. Mather-Lees and Miss P.A.J. Cook The engagement is amnounced between Michael son of Mrs M.D. Pescod, of Brecon, Powys and support of the late Mr R.P. Pescod, OBE, and Pandors, daughter of Dr and Mrs Michael Cook, of

Mr J.E. Out and Miss P. Yes The engagement is unnounced between lames, son of Captain and Mrs Brian Outhwaine, of Westbourne, West Sussex, and Polly, daughter of Mr and Mrs King C. Yee, of Woodside, New York. Major LH.L. Patrick, MVO. and Miss LA. O'Connell

The engagement is announced between Major James Patrick. herwein Major James Parick. Irish Guards, son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs John Pat-rick, of Bourne End, Buckingham-shire, and Lucie, eldest daughter of Surgeon Captain and Mrs. Morgan O'Connell, of Wickham, Hampshire.

Mr C.J. Pattison
and Miss K.V. Dodds
The engagement is announced
between Christopher, son of Mrs
M.B. Nutter, of Richmond, North
Yorkshire and the late Mr K.J. Pattison, and Katle, elder daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs C.N. Dodds, of Grayshott, Surrey. Mr S.A. Penney and Miss A.G. McLaughlin

The engagement is announced between Smart, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Penney, of Hastings, and Anna, daughter of Mr Rich-ard McLaughlin, of Cannabury, London, and Mrs Penny Foster, of Mr.J.C. Price and Mins J.J.R. Yates

and Mass J.J.R. Yates
The engagement is announced between Joseph, son of Mr Edmund Price and Mrs Elizabeth Price, of Tyla Glas, Caerphilly, and Jane, daughter of Dr and Mrs ivan Yates, of Juggs Chmer, Kingston, Sussec.

Mr B. Smee and Miss K. Machatyre and Miss K. Macintyre
The engagement is aunounced
between Ben, younger son of Mr
and Mrs -Michael Smee, of
Musbury. Devon, and Kale,
daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark
Macintyre. of Birdham, West
Sussex.

Mr G.J. von Burg III.

and Miss S.E. Shelbourne The engagement is amounced between George Josef III, elder son of Mr and Mrs George Josef von Burg, of Bettlach, Switzerland and Hong Kong, and Sophia, Efizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M.O. Shelbourne, of The Manor House, Soham, Ely,

Mr S.J. Walker

and Miss S.M. Benge The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr between Simon, eloer and of Willer, of Monusichino, Italy, and Mrs Hazel Walker, of Cholesbury Common, Bucking-harmshire, and Sophie, elder dauginer of Mr and Mrs John Benge, of Parnham Royal, Buckinghamshire.

Mr H.D. Walkinshaw and Miss J.A. Rawes

and Miss J.A. Rawes
The engagement is announced between Hugo son of Mr Coin.
Walkinshaw, of Compour, Surrey, and Mrs Pierre Rostand, of Resultent Hampshire, and John, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert. Hawes, of Chilson, Chilinghire.

Marriages

The marriage took place yesterday at St Mary's, Borwick, Carnforth. Lancasting of Mr. Anthony R. Collinson, elder son of Mr Collinson, of Crosby, Isle of Man, and of Mrs Irene Collinson, of Burton Old Hall, Burton in Kendal, Cumbria, to Miss Edwins Rickards, younger daughter of Commander Arthur Rickards and the late the Hon Mrs Richards, of Scotland, Cason F.B. Oddy offici-

200

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Poppy Henricita Collinson and Mrs Douglas Davies. Mr Thomas Anshew Hoyle

Mr A.M. Briggs and Miss A.H.C. Fowler and Mist A.H.C. Forter.
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 28, in St Paul's
Cathedral, of Mr Ansony Briggs,
younger son of the late Mr
Kenneth Briggs and of Mrs
Briggs, of Sunderland, and Miss
Alice Fowler, eldent daughter of
Mr and Mrs Peter Fowler, of
London, The Rev John Lees
officiated

The bride, who was given in marriage by her tather, was atemded by Louise and Thomas.
Briggs Mr Paul Burfoot and Mr
Paul Briggs were best men.
A reception was held at the
Naylor's, Clerkerwell, and the honeymoon will be spent in San Francisco and Hawaii. Mr C.W. Brown

and Miss E.C. Jacklin The marriage took place on December 31, at St Patrick's Church Southport of Craig son of Mr and Mrs William Brown, to Emma, elder danginer of Mr and Mrs Richard Jackin.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

FAX: 0171 481 9313

BMDS: 0171 680 6880

PERSONAL COLUMN

50-56

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000 I shall appoint shepherds who will tend my sheep, so that never again will they know BIRTHS

fear or dismay or pur ment ferentiah 23 : 4 BANKS - On December 28th 1996, to Simon and Rowers a second sun, jack Samuel

EDWARDS - On December 21st, to Carol (nos Hawson) and Gareth, a daughter,

GREGORY - On 25th Decemb 1996, to Jake (see McNeil GHAPEL - On December 21st 1996 at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Clairs (née Somewille) and Jonathan, a daughter, Elember Maria DEATHS

ARTIN CUSSONS - On Wednesday 20th Movember, to Shella and Peter, a beautiful daughter, Eathsyn Bearrice Elizabeth, a sister FATTULO- On 23rd December 1996 at Ousen Charlotte's Hospital, to Linesy (née Martin) and Renneth, a son Harry George.

BIRD - Helen Irene, much loved daughter of Dicky and frene, and sister of Racheel, Lonns and Alison; suddenly on 25th December aged 47. Femeral Service at St Marys, Unington at 3 pm january 7th. Family flowers; donations if desired to British Heart Foundation. All lenguistes to C. Locke tal. (01608) 688274.

DEATHS AWKES - Josephine (nee Bubbard), widow of Ven LS. Hawkes, peacefully at bosse CHATWEN - Chaises, aged \$8 years, peacefully on 27th December 1996. Funeral Service at the Gaild Chapel. Street, Structord-upon-Avon, on Friday 3rd jounary at 1 pm followed by grivate. Donations if desired for either Friends of the Guild Chapel or the Rull. Co All Bennett & Sona, 34 Sheep Street, Structord-upon-Avon, CV37 6EB.

ACKSON - Errol Husband of Jounnette, Father of Amland and Nicky, Grandfather of Simon, Mertie and Tinany, Peacefully at Ellingham Mill, December 30th. Private Crimation. KEAN - Suddenly at Pentes on Monday December 30th 1996 Alexander Allan Kean. "Corrour" Forms. Husband of Mary, fother of Allson, Allstair and James. Funeral Service at St fohm's Briscopal Church Forms on Saturday Jahuary 4th at 9.45nm theysafter Cremation private at Inverness. Femily Howars only.

December 1996 at Glovester House Mursing Home, Sevendaks, Kent, Blanche Lindaey-Renton aged 105 years, widow of the late George Heary Lindaey-Renton of 'Dovers', Reignt, Surrey, Fuheral Service to be held at Emmanuel Church. Sidlowbridge Surrey. Funeral Service to be held at Emmanuel Church, Sidlowbridge, near Reigne, Friday 10th January at 11.30 cm. No flowers, donations preferred to The Royal London Hospital League of Nusses, Cantral Office, The Boyal London Hospital, Whiteeheapel Rosd, London El 188 Enquiries to Stoneman Funeral Service (01737) 763456.

WoDQUGALL - Archibeld Rutherford, known by all as "Dougell", Commander ENVE Retired. Died peacefully on 28th December aged 93 in the care of Runtercombe Hall Number Bown. Humberd of Phylle, father of Roddy, grandfather of Zoe, stepfather of Penny Pumeral Services on Toesday 7th January at Reeding Crematorium at 145 pm. All enquiries to Tomath & Sen (01491) 573370.

sendivital. - Rev'd Charles aged 80 years peacefully in hospital in Stratford upon Avon on 27th December 1996. Much loved hazband of the late Elizabeth and son Michael, and grandfather of Colin and Cetherine. Funeral Service at Stowleigh Church, Warwickshire on Wedneday 8th January 22 ym. No flowers. Donations if desired for Ashow Church Fund may be sent to John

MILLER - Leonard Frederick Charles of Ewell, Survey, died peacefully at Headond Mursing Home, Zwell, Survey, on Christman Day, Beloved husband of Bartha and father to Michael, Ann, Paul and Carlstopher and dearly loved grandfather to their children, Faneyal. Service at St John the Saptist, Farksh Church, Stoneleigh, Survey at I pse on Wednesday 15th Hanzay, followed by crematorium, Lesthethead, Survey at Zyan. Emdills Park Communium, Lestherhood, Survey at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Airheimer's Disease may sent clo Alfred & Ewart Longburst, Fancral

Stewart, of Berkhamsted.
Saddanly, on December 27th
aged SO years. Beloved
funbund of Valente, fathar of
Parise and Neals junior,
bother of Judy Trehame
and David Monks. Fuhamil
Service on Wednesday
jupuary 8th at 10 am at St.
Fetars Church, Bethiamsted,
Harts, followed by private
creantion. Dunations in lieu
of Elower please to SEPSE.

(Fog) Commission percepting in his 98rd year percepting in his 98rd year percepting in his last on December 25th 1996. Beloved hashand of the late Joyce and Exther of Juris. Femusal to be held in the Church of 5r Mary the Virgia, Hambleden on Saturday 11th lamstry at 230 pm followed by private dremation. Family Howers cally. Downtone, 17 decired, by the Hambleden Family Howers romain & Son, Anderson House, 35 Resting Road, Henley-on-Thamber. PRATT Peacefully on December 300s Dr. Memmen Pratt, aged 84 years, Pennal Service to be held at the Ciry of Morwich. (Earlistan) Crematorium, Norwich on Monday January 6th at 1 pm. Flowers or donations in Maureen's memory may be sent c'o Peter Taylor Fermal Services, 85 Undersit Road. TOFFE-SILVESTER - Godfrey Peter of Crowcombe, Somerset, pencetully or 29th December, aged 72 years. Fether of Charles and William

27th December, aged 72
years. Father of Charles and
William, grandfather of
Thomas and Henry Feneral
at the Church of the Holy
Ghost, Convocating Teachy
January 7th at 2,20 pm.
Family Howers only,
tonations for 9th Margarets
Rospice, 2P.23, and Willhoo
Hospital to Grandfield &
Son, Nether Stowey,
bridgwater, tel: (01278)
732219. FUGGER - The R. Hon. Skr John Dexter MC TD peacefully on 27th December 1996 aged 78. Peneral Service at Pathory Vale Cremtonium, London SW16 on Friday 10th January 1997 at 230 pm. Flowers II deched to be sunt to Asburn's Funeral Services, 140 Alexandra Lond, Wimbledon SW10. by 1.30pm. Enquiries to Ashton's (DISI) 946-1051.

SOLUTION OF December 20th 1996, Hajor General C.W. (Shift) Woods CS MRK MC Denty loved and respected father and grandfather. Frivate family cremation. Hemorial Berries to be amounted later. Donations of the Revel Engineers

Hister - Risabeth AO, (note Mohard), after short illness, on December 23rd, aged 86 of The Besidence, Chryfield, Brisbane, Queers land, Greatly externed and much leved by the Metrzah, Wright and Doved families of Liverpool, Rugiand, Francus took place Fring December 27th at 5t Agetha's, Clayfield. peacefully in Patcham Nursing Home, Brighton, Valute Mand Louis, in he 85th year, Desmet mother of Supposentimenther of Blood, Abdrew and slater of Supparate Funfold, Funeral Service Wednasday January Sch 1997 at Poyning, Parish Chunch at 2 pa, followed by private tresantion. Flower

Service at St Mary's Cherch Reignte on Priday, 17th January at 12 noon. I desired, donations to the

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OBITUARIES

SIR WILLIAM BROWN

Sir William Brown, CBE, chief executive of Scottish Television, 1966-90, and chairman of the Scottish Arts Conneil, 1992-96. died of a brain tumour on December 29 aged 67. He was born on June 24, 1929.

ill Brown presided over the modernis-ation of Scottish Television, securing the future of a company which seemed bound for oblivion: and he chaired the Scottish Arts Council during a period of unusual difficulty. In both roles he showed deep integrity allied to exceptional gifts of analysis, vision and leader-

ship. He had an unassuming charm, combining old-fashioned coursesy and a genuine interest in others with a vigour that seemed ageless. He also had the tough-mindedness to understand and confront change and was able to say unpalatable things in a way which offended nobody but forced them, too, to be

William Brown was educated at Ayr Academy and Edinburgh University, where he qualified as an accountant, and spent his National Service in the Royal Artillery. His long association with Scottish Television began in 1957, a year after Roy Thomson's station went on the air, when he became its London sales manager.

About the best that could be said of STV at that time was that its local programmes were cheap and cheerful. This was a euphemism for shoddiness and inanity. Most of what came out of the studios in the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, such as the One O'Clock Gang, will be remembered only by those with a cultist penchant for dire television. Much of the rest was brought in, from England and America.

With an excess of candour Roy Thomson called the station a licence to print money. It was a remark that enraged the regulatory establishment. Vernesis came in 1969 when the Independent Television Authority demanded that Thomson reduce his share-

Lew Ayres, American

ctor, died on December

30 aged 88. He was born

on December 28, 1908.

LEW AYRES was adept at

playing decent, sensitive thoughtful and likeable he-

roes. But he was a classic

instance of an actor whose

greatest, most enduring role

occurred at the onset of his

 $A_{i} \subseteq T$

family decided to get out of STV altogether.

The result was an exceptionally difficult round of negotia-tions for Brown, who had been appointed managing director in 1966, especially since the sale of the Thomson shareholding coincided with the destruction by fire of the Theatre Royal and the STV

But much good came of the change. The diffusion of the STV ownership gave Brown considerable freedom of action, and he moved to restore first the station's fabric and then its reputation. STV moved to new studios and offices at Cowcaddens and the old Theatre Royal became the headquarters of Scottish Opera. Brown, with Sir Alexander Gibson and others, worked enthusiastically for its restoration and became a director of the Scottish Opera

The poverty of STV's programmes, Brown saw, would not indefinitely be tolerated by the regulators. He began to stiffen the quality of its output hiring as a producer, among others, the young Gordon Brown, now Shadow Chancellor — and in 1985 recruited Gus Macdonald from Granada as director of programmes. To better news and documentary programmes were added popular dramas such as Taggart and Take the High Road which gave STV unprecedented exposure on the network.

Jeremy Isaacs - later first chief of Channel Four, of which Brown was a founding director - was commissioned to produce a controversial film, A Sense of Freedom, about the notorious hard man turned sculptor, Jimmy Boyle. Brown showed coolness under fire when he resisted attacks on the film and Isaacs later paid tribute to the support Brown gave him during Channei Four's troubled early days.

The two men later had the distinction of being jointly bandbagged at a seminar called by Mrs Thatcher to consider the Peacock report on the liberalisation of television. Brown was in the middle of a defence of ITV's record in general and the public-service



interrupted him and said that TTV was the "last bastion of restrictive practices". Turning baleful eye on Isaacs, she added: "Apart from the Royal Opera House" (of which Isaacs was by now chief executive). Brown's habitual urbanity was not disturbed. but he seethed privately for a long time afterwards.

As franchise renewal approached, Brown fought stoutthrough some bitter executive wars to ensure that Macdonald would succeed him as chief executive (and later as chairman). When he eventually stepped down in 1990 he was the longestserving chief executive in the ITV federation. In 1991 the STV bid to renew its franchise was unopposed, although auctions were held elsewhere, and the station thus became the longest-serving ITV company still broadcasting in its original region.

Brown took up an important new challenge in 1992 when he became chairman of the Scottish Arts Council. During his term, responsibility for the council was devolved from the Arts Council of Great Britain to the Scottish Office. The flow of lottery funds also began. But these issues were insig-ificant beside the crisis over Scotland's four major orchestras. There was a general problem of over-provision and a particular anomaly at Scottish Opera, where a standing professional orchestra was 50 per cent under-used. This led to a proposal to merge it with the BBC Scottish, bitterly opposed by the musicians of both bands.

The matter was not resolved during Brown's chairmanship but his patient diplomacy and analytical approach forced all parties to recognise that the status quo was not an option. This set the tone for the solution that has now emerged work within which Scottish Opera and Scottish Ballet will share an orchestra.

At one meeting Brown recalled that the wife of Anthony Eden had said the Suez Canal seemed sometimes to flow through her living room: Brown remarked that the major orchestras of Scotland seemed to be playing in his.

Executive staff found Brown a shrewd but supportive leader. He was, Gus Macdonald noted, a perfect boss - equabie, readily amused, tolerant of temperament and the artistic insistence on the right to fail. As chairman of the arts council, his staff knew that once he was satisfied that a policy was soundly based, he would give it steadfast support. He nated, above all, to be

caucht unbriefed. For a man who had achieved much civil servants at the Scottish Office regarded him as one of the most able laymen ever to chair a public body in Scotland - he was unterly free of pomposity, a quality he detested in others.

He was widely respected,

also, in the television industry. He twice chaired - from 1968-70 and 1978-80 - the council that oversees the ITV federation, and fought for better access to the network of programmes made by the smaller companies. He was awarded the Royal Television Society's gold medal for outstanding services in 1984.

After his retirement as STV chief executive, he served as a non-executive chairman until

this year. He also chaired the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Company from 1989 to 1994. He was appointed CBE in 1971 and was knighted in the

birthday honours of 1996. Because of the onset of illness, the Duke of Edinburgh awarded him the accolade and insignia in a private ceremony at the City Chambers. Glasgow. He was an indefatigable

supporter of the arts, and his other private passion was golf. He was a member of the Royal and Ancient, and latterly captain of Prestwick.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, three daughters and a

> batant service as a medic. eventually becoming a chap-

> lain's aide. He saw action, but

did not fight, in the south

nated for an Academy Award.

national religious study.

Pacific, and was awarded three Silver Stars for gallantry. After considering entering the church, he returned from the war a manurer, better actor. His performances as the detective in Robert Siodmak's psychological thriller The Dark Mirror (1946) and as the lawyer in The Unfaithful (1947), a remake of The Letter directed by Vincent Sherman. were admirable. As the sympathetic doctor in Johnny Belinda (1948), directed by Jean Negulesco, he was nomi-

His co-star, Jane Wyman. playing a deaf mute, won as Best Actress. This was not enough to restore his career and he gradually faded from films. announcing that he would devote most of his time to studying world religions. His screen appearances became sporadic, including Advise and Consent (1962). Battlestar Galactica (1979) and a num-

But his role was sometimes ber of television movies. A lengthy documentary. Altars of the World (1991) was the fruit of his two decades of travelling and inter-denomi-He was married three times: to the actresses Lola Lane (from 1931 to 1933) and Ginger Rogers (from 1934 to 1941), and, after more than 20 years as a bachelor, from 1964 to Diana Hall, a British air stewardess, who survives him

PROFESSOR S. HERBERT FRANKEL

S. Herbert Frankel. Professor of the Economics of Underdeveloped Countries at Oxford University, 1946-71, died on December 11 aged 93. He was born on

November 22, 1903.

HERBERT FRANKEL Was an eminent economist an educational pioneer and an adviser to governments, whose distinguished career spanned 70 years. He was born in Johannesburg, his parents having recently emigrated to South Africa from Germany. His father's success in the grain business was interrupted by the First World War, when he was forced to flee from South Africa to escape internment as an enemy alien.

As a teenager, Sally Herbert Frankel not only had responsibility for helping his family during his father's fiveyear absence but also experienced the double prejudice of anti-Germanism and anti-Semitism. In combination with his formative memories of the illogicalities of the colour bar, this made him a lifelong opponent of all forms of racial and religious

segregation. He achieved success as one of the first graduates of the University of the Witwatersrand and then at the London School of Economics. His first book was published when he was 23; at 25 he returned as head of Witwatersrand's economics department: he was appointed professor when he

was only 28.

His academic interests were a reflection of his close-knit family background. Unlike many economists, he felt that detailed empirical investigation of the working of real-life business was essential. Cooperation & Competition in the Marketing of Maize in South Africa (1925) and The Railway Policy of South Africa (1928) were early examples of his painstaking approach.

He was a convinced believer in the efficacy of the free market and an anti-Keynesian. His free market economon each other.

As he wrote in his autobiography, An Economist's Testimony (1992), he rejected the idea that Africans required paternal protection or that whites benefited from segregation. What was required by all "was fair economic opportunity and freedom of choice on fair and equal terms".

As a young professor. Frankei soon became a central figure in South African life, At his university he built a renowned department of economics. He co-edited the South African Journal of Economics. He was the organiser of an influential group. including Jan H. Hofmeyr, Oliver Schreiner and Edgar Brookes, who produced in 1930 a liberal manifesto for South Africa titled Coming of Age: later Frankel was a leading contributor to the liberal weekly Forum.

Because of his expertise in the economics of railways. mines and gold, he was in constant demand as a consultant and as a member of commissions in South Africa and elsewhere. Always close to Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, he was sent by him in 1930 to America to assess the impact of the Wall Street crash on South African goldmining.

as much political as economic. In 1936 he was invited by the Jewish Agency to give evidence in Jerusalem to the Palestine Royal Commission the Peel Commission). In keeping with his economic philosophy he argued against the view that there existed in Palestine a limited capacity to absorb Jewish refugees from the Hitler regime. Free economic development would with their son, his only child. | produce growth and a capacity to employ an increasing number of Arabs as well as Jews.

During the Second World War. Frankel acted us a close economic adviser to Hofmeyr. who had become the Minister of Finance in Jan Smuts's warrime Government. However, the anti-war and pro-German sentiments of much of the Boer population made it impolitic for Hofmeyr to give public prominence to Frankel's role and made it unlikely that he would be invited into the inner circles of government in South Africa after the war.

These political conditions persuaded Frankel in 1945 to accept the offer of a newlycreated chair at Oxford in Colonial Economies. He held this position (whose title was twice altered to fit changing political realities) from 1946 until his retirement in 1971. He was a Fellow of the recentlyfounded Nuffield College during these years.

At Oxford he played a leading part in introducing development economics and in helping to train colonial civil servants. He was responsible for raising the lion's share of funds to create Queen Elizabeth House and continued to advise colonial admin-



istrations in several African countries.

Between 1953 and 1955, he was the most active member of the East Africa Royal Commission, which investigated the future of Kenya (then Mau rebellion) and of neighbouring territories. However. he was out of sympathy with the "socialist collectivism" then dominating economic thinking in Britain and found his closest colleagues among

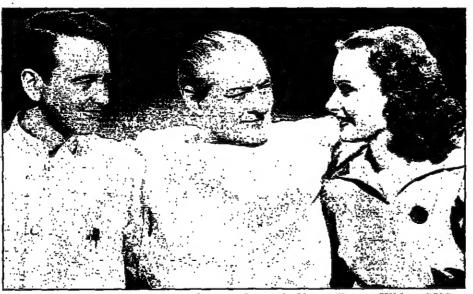
his fellow members of the Mont Pelerin Society, formed in 1947 under the leadership of Friedrich Havek. For several years from 1967.

he taught during the spring semesters at the University of Virginia, where he valued the company of free marketeers such as Warren Nutter and Gordon Tullock, Following several books on development economics, he published Money: Two Philosophies (1977).

Frankel was active in Jewish and Zionist affairs. In 1925 he attended the World Zionist Congress in Basle. In the 1930s he worked to secure Jewish emigration from Germany. During and after the Second World War, his close relationship with the Oppenheimers enabled him to play the key role in ensuring that the refugee diamond cutters who had fled to Palestine from Antwerp received a supply of uncut diamonds. By 1989. Israel's diamond industry employed 22,000 people with sales of \$2.7 billion. For 14 years, 1949-63, he was president of the Oxford Jewish Congregation and for 18 years. 1971-89, he served as the first chairman of governors of the new Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, now one of the world's main centres of Jewish learning. Frankel married in 1928 his

cousin Ilsa Frankel, a strong supporter and academic colleague. She died in 1994. He is survived by a son and a

LEW AYRES



Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore and Lynne Carver in Young Doctor Kildare (1938)

career, leading the rest to seem. anti-climactic. All Quiet on the Western Front (1930) was only his third film. His portrayal of the eager young German soldier who becomes sickened with the Kaiser's lust for military

glory in Lewis Milestone's anti-war film of Erich Maria Remarque's seminal novel of trench life, had a lasting effect on the actor's outlook. His pacifist views would lead him into controversy when the United States entered the Second World War. He was born Lewis Ayer in Minneapolis. At the Univer-

sity of Arizona he studied medicine, which aided him later when he played the first screen Dr Kildare in a successful series. He was also a skilful player of the piano, banjo and guitar. Forsaking a medical career he joined a dance band, and was spotted playing at the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles

by Paul Bern, then a Pathe Bern gave him a small part

in a silent film. The Sophomore (1929), directed by Leo McCarey. Moving to MGM. Bern recommended Avres for the second male lead in Garbo's last silent film. Jacques Feyder's The Kiss (1929). It led to a contract with Universal and the leading role in All Quiet on the Western Front, which won the Best Film Oscar and was a critical and financial specess. Ayres had reached the peal

of his career, and was considered a potential big star. But his boyish looks soon proved a handicap in films such as Doorway to Field (1930), in which as a bigshot gangster he was completely outclassed by James Cagney, ostensibly his henchman. Nor was he at ease in

comedies. Many a Slip (1931) failed as much for its screenplay as for the forced playing of its leads, Ayres and Joan Bennett. There were momentary respites from the downward trajectory, including James Whale's The Impatient Maiden (1932) opposite Mae Clarke, and Henry King's State Fair (1933) as the love interest of Janet Gaynor.

By the mid-1930s he had been relegated to B-pictures,

and made a succession of them at various studios, including Republic, located on Hollywood's "Poverty Row" where he directed a film himself, Hearts in Bondage (1936). He was then cast in a main production, George Cukor's Holiday (1938), as Katharine Hepburn's spoiled brother, and performed well enough to be noticed again. MGM gave him the title

(1938) as an idealistic physician at odds with the old school personified by the tetchy Dr Gillespie (Lionel Barrymore), and it was the first of a popular B-picture series. Eight were made with him before the public grew tired. Meanwhile, Ayres played second leads and supporting roles in other films. including Ice Follies of 1939. Broadway Serenade and Rerole in Young Doctor Kildare member? (all 1939).

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Notfield Trust in Process of the Crown for beguinting to Charley mence: RM/3646/86 mmissioners propose Scheme for this Charley

STEVEN CARL TAXLOR of Partyriew Manadous, Green Lance, London 34 would Nike it to be known that hemseforth be is to be officially recognized as JACOB STEVEN KAM. TAYLOR.

As a consequence of his religious beliefs Ayres had registered as a conscientious objector. After the United States entered the war he said: War is the worst crime. I just couldn't bring myself to kill other men." However laud-able his position, it was totally opposed to prevailing national sentiment. Louis B. Mayer. the mogul of MGM, told him that he was finished in pictures, and the leading trade newspaper Variety declared

him a disgrace.

Exhibitors declined his films and cinemas that still showed them were picketed. He was replaced in the faltering Kildare series and went to work in a logging camp. Later he volunteered for non-com-

CONDUCT IN A DANCE

HALL CONVICTION IN FEN DITTON CASE The Bottisham (Cambridgeshire) magistrates yesterday had before them Mrs. EILEEN ALLEN WOOLFE, 40, who was charged with permitting a dance hall adjacent to her house at Fen Ditton to be used as a disorderly house. The defendant was before the Bench in March, when defendant was before the Bench in March, when evidence was given that Cambridge undergraduates, and girls working in shops and factories at Cambridge, used to remain in the dance hall after dancing had finished, when the alleged incidents took place. The place had been kept under observation from November 1929 to January observation from November 1920 to January 1930. The Magistrates then dismissed the case against Mrs. Woolfe, as well as summonses against her son. Peter Woolfe, 19, for aiding and abetting his mother. The CHAIRMAN (Mr. T. Musgrave Francis) said that the Bench had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the law did not admit of their finding the defendants guilty. They had to administer the criminal law and not the moral law. If they were to administer the moral law no condemnation could be and not the moral law. It they were to administer the moral law no condemnation could be sufficiently strong for the shameless and wanton proceedings which had been alleged to occur in that dance hall. The criminal law was extremely limited, and they had to decide whether the premises had been used for habitual prostitution, and allheuth draw had to greatly a grossia. and although they had been used in a grossly reprehensible manner they were unable to say that the hall had been used for the purpose

ON THIS DAY

January 1, 1931

What happened after the dancing was over in a Cambridgeshire village half and the dancers, undergraduates and girls working in local shops and factories, stayed on, was a matter which perplexed Bottisham

alleged. The police appealed against the decision of the Bench, and on December 1 the Divisional Court allowed the appeal, and sent the case back to the Magistrates with a direction to hear and determine it according to the law.

Mr. Grafton Pryor appeared for the prosecu-tion. Mr. Eustace Fulton defended. Mr. Fulton, before calling Mrs. Woolfe to give evidence, asked the Bench to consider the fact that, in spite of what had been said elsewhere, Mrs. Woolfe had not made a shilling apart from teas. Mrs. Woolfe might have been careless, but

Mrs. Woolfe read a statement in which she said that she had taken River Cottage, Fen Ditton, at the instigation of a public association, and she

acted as area secretary, which necessitated her keeping late hours. Later on she acquired a barn next door to her house, which was afterwards made into a studio for singing, and her sun organised boring tournaments for village lads, in 1929 two members of St. John's College asked permission to use the room for dance band practice. Afterwards, she agreed to run three ances, the hand taking a percentage of profits Sunday fea dances were started and well attended, but only small profits were made by her. There was never any suspicion of wrong behaviour. There was only one occasion on which she saw anything wrong and that was when a man had a girl on his knee. He never came again.

as they were closing the place owing to losses.

Mr. Pryor drew the attention of the Bench to the presence in court of the Senior Proctor, Mr. F.J. Dykes, of Trinity College, who desired to refue the statement of Mrs. Woolfe to the effect that any undergraduate giving evidence on her behalf would be sent down. That was quite untrue, and no edjet to that effect had been issued

by the proctoral body.

The Bench retired, and on their return the CHAIRMAN said that they were of opinion that no evidence had been called by the defence to displace the lasts of the case, and they had no hesitation in obeying the order of the Divisional Court. The full line of \$100 would be inflicted, as they had no the beat and they had no hesitation in obeying the order of the Divisional Court. The full line of \$100 would be inflicted, as they hadred terror if a cardiolibrate investigation. they looked upon it as a deliberate inveigling of young men and young wumen into immoral

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OF WELFARE SOCIETY tale honder those who gave their lives for our country. But what of those who shared the same bornes and survived ... their FLATSHARE bornes and survived ... their minds shattered... The Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society cares for men and videoes from the services with service depends of mental liberts shall remain services in land and velocities and the services are services and the services and the services and the services are services and the services and the services are services and the services and the services are services are services and the services are services are services and the services are services are services are services and the services are services are services are services are services and the services are servic Regency one. A denation new or a legacy later FLIGHTS. DIRECTORY

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What sells newspapers?

PAPER ROUND Brian MacArthur

The main story on the front page of the Daily Mail yesterday was devoted to the knighthood bestowed on Paul McCartney. Alongside that was a human interest story about a British woman in peril abroad: a photograph of Deborah Parry, one of the two nurses charged with murder in Saudi Arabia.

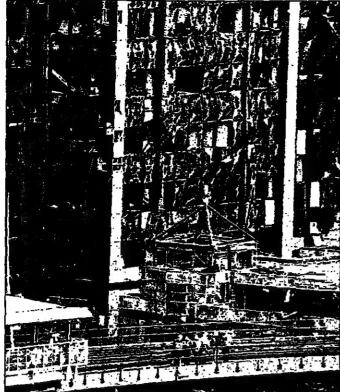
My bet, however, is that it was neither of these stories which was really moving the Daily Mail off the newsagents's racks. That honour belonged to Jonathan Cainer, who is not a journalist but an astrologist. All this week the Mail is serialising the predictions for 1997 that Cainer gleans from his study of the stars and planets, and promoting the series across the top of the front

According to Paper Round's study of what sold national newspapers in 1996, it is only rarely that news stories achieve the extra sales boosts that all editors strive so hard to gain. What adds sales most often are promotions. That is why horoscopes are one of the most popular tactics used by newspaper marketeers, especially on the tabloids.

When the Daily Mail serialised Jonathan Cainer's horoscopes last year, it achieved its third highest sales boost of the year, an extra 120,000 copies, and the Daily Express added 77,000 with its "Horoscopes 96" series. The Mail on Sunday added 192,000, its highest surge of the year, when it published a new year set of horoscopes — a real achievement — from the late Patric Walker. So did the Sunday Mirror with Russell Grant. The fabled Mystic Meg also works wonders for the News of the World.

Sex, health and money always boost sales. The Sunday Times got its highest increase of 1996 with its annual survey of Britain's richest men and women, and The Sun its second highest when it launched its Syndicates Lottery card. Marks & Spencer vouchers did well for the Daily Express as did a two-for-one British Midland ticket offer, a twofor one BA offer in The Mail on Sunday and The Sun's £9.50 shortbreak holidays in Britain.

With its combination of travel and saving money, the Eurostar promo-



both to all-time records.

winners. Study the seven

news stories that did best for

The Sun and four are about Diana,

Princess of Wales or the Duchess of

York (aka Fergie); another was England's Euro 96 victory over

Holland, as it was for the Daily

Mirror. The Sun got its biggest boost of all from the Christmas TV listings,

another big success for the Mirror.

tion in The Times and The Sunday Sunday to its highest sale of the year. Times was certainly the best broad-Yet royal stories work in all newspaper markets. A special on the Queen did well for The Mail on sheet promotion of the year, adding more than 150,000 to sales of both Sunday, adding 108,000, and the serialisation of Sarah Bradford's papers over four weeks and pushing biography of the Queen added more than 200,000 for The Times, its Any promotion related to healthy

living is also a winner. A slimming promotion with Vernon Coleman highest boost of the year. More modest promotions also work for the broadsheets. The most won The People its highest sale of the year and a May bikini diet in the News of the World added 132,000. For the Daily Mail, a January diet wallchart achieved the biggest boost of the year of 177,000 and The Sunday Times's "Change Your Life" ex, soaps, sport, TV and the royals are the other surefire

Dunblane, two IRA bombs, Euro

Study the Daily Mirror's top ten and three are based on football, two on Gazza, two on Prince Charles or Mail, the newspapers that have reduced their prices have shown the Princess Diana and two on Dunblane. A sex, drugs and rock 'n roll special took the Independent on best sales rises during 1996.

Big stories such as Canary Wharf and Dunblane cannot match promo

successful for The Guardian was a mini Halliwell film guide, which added 30,000, and serialisation of a Robert Maxwell biography, which put on about 20,000. For The Independent, its most successful tactic was its £3 video offer, which upped sales by 39,000, and it won an extra 30,000 readers a day from its publication of university vacancles.

96, the Budget, Princess Diana's divorce - news does sell newspapers, as The Independent found out when the IRA bomb went off near its Canary Wharf headquarters and its office was evacuated. The journalists who remained produced their best selling newspaper of the year as did those who did the Sunday paper.

Yet the best marketing tactic of all is the simplest. Apart from the Daily

ouons and noroscopes in the num	101 25TC2
Green Services	
The stories and promotions that lifted sales	
	Afre seles with
Daily Mirror Christmes TV/John Major	289,000/12
Dunblane	174,000/ 7
The Star Play Dates	19,000/ 3
Daily Mell	177,000/ 7
Dunblane	126,000/ 6
The Express	77,000/ 6
M&S vouchers	20,000/ 2
The Times Sarah Bradford/The Queen	205,000/28
Eurostar promotion	147,000/19
The Guardian Halliwell film guide	50,000/ 7
Robert Maxwell serial	20,000/ 5
The independent Videos for 23	39,000/14
Canary Wharf bomb	30,000/16
NoW Christmas TV lists/101 Dalmations	182,000/ 4
Football fatures/Mandy Allwood	182,000/ 4
The PeopleSlimming/Diana	125,000/ 5
Rosa West/Scratchoard/Sex	75,000/ 4
Sunday Mirror. Russell Grant horoscope	100,000/ 4
KarnaSextre/Fergle	100,000/ 4
Medi on Sunday Petric Walker	192,000/ 9
The Ousen	108,000/ 5
Strocker Times 500 richnet	149.000/12
Sunday Times	118,000/ 9
The Chantier Wairi stuff	40 000V B

Syndicates Lottery C Super TV Guide IRA bomb London Football Football ma Coronation St card Dumblane

NEW HOMES

The 1997 wish list for all licence fee payers

All I want for the new year is . . .

BRENDA

MADDOX

British degree courses in media studies, and with hundreds of digital satellite channels, plus the new Channel 5 on their way, it is hard to know what else to wish for in 1997. But I will try:

An electronic guide to BBC management. Has Alan Yentob been relegated to Channel

Magazines that do not spew glossy leaflets for cut-price power tools, film prints, fitted kitchens and home insurance all over your carpet. I know, I know, these fillers keep the cover price down. I hate them. Radio 4's Thought for the Day to be moved to 6am to inspire the farmers.

Deliticians to realise that the Today programme on the aforesaid radio network is agenda-setting only for those stuck in iffeur-driven cars between 7 o'clock and

8.45 on weekday mornings. Everybody else seriously interested in public affairs has his or her head stuck in newspapers at that time of day.

judges who tell psychopaths, You are a monster whose actions are abhorrent to all right-thinking people", thereby suggesting that all right-thinking people have contemplated the rape of a nonagenarian in a graveyard but, upon reflection, rejected it.

A quiz at the end of the BBC's Horizon and other well meaning science television programmes to see if even one fact has been transferred to the mind of the audience. Which way does the water run between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea? Right answers get £10 off their licence

☐ Television licence fee-dodgers (who are more good news from 1996 — no longer to be sent to jail) to be sentenced to 40 weeks of viewing only daytime television.

A V-chip to blot out Crimewatch, the most irightening programme on TV.

□ Jeremy Paxman to present Question

☐ The new Chinese rulers of Hong Kong to announce on July I that they have embraced Western notions of a free press. Western journalists can thereupon renew their leases on their elegant high-rise flats, confident of continuing to work uncensored as before. ☐ A quiet agreement to shelve the Millenni-um Exhibition as a bad idea and to give the £700 million to schools instead. Or to hospitals. Or repairing the sewers. Or

☐ A rest cure for Chris Evans. ☐ Maternity leave for Madonna.

map, rather than the audience, saving us those embarrassing mimes in which their left hand swoops over the Isles of Scilly when they are talking about the Scottish Highlands. An award for Neighbours, the sunny

☐ A television set you can hang on the wall (as promised by futurologists for the past 20

years).

A recognition that Ireland is a European partner like any other and therefore can tolerate British politicians referring to its Prime Minister in English. Otherwise, fair's fair. If we must endure Taoiseach for John Bruton, why not Bundeskanzler for Helmot Kohl and Premier Ministre for Alain Juppe?

A recognition that Ireland is a country

that knows how to treat a film industry.

The disappearance of all as trology columns from newspa-pers and magazines. In their place could go recommended ripostes for those who coyly sidle up to ask you, "What's your sign"? To this, the late Richard Burton, I'm told, used to snap back: "Do Not Disturb". All drama-documentaries to be true. Accuracy need not be bor-

ing it just takes longer. ☐ The return of the place name apostrophe, as in King's Cross and Gray's Inn Road. Check

saints' names in the telephone directory if you don't think there's a problem.

The return of the multi-coloured Channel

☐ The return of The Larry Sanders Show, the sassiest American import since The Simpsons, which together prove that, de-spite the new waves of grotesque hypochon-dria and political correctness, American

irony is not dead.

If the Simpsons to run five nights a week.

A lifetime appointment for Don Cruicksbank, head of the cable, satellite and telephone watchdog, Oftel. If security of tenure gives judges courage and authority, why should it not do the same for an anti-

monopoly regulator?

Calvin Klein to undergo counselling to cure bizarre fantasies of what kind of poster sells jeans and perfume to people waiting at

CITY to move the ITN News at Ten to whatever time it likes, but to give up that commercial break which so biatantly divides the hard news from the soft. The Queen, in her next Christmas broadcast, to remind the nation that love

means never having to say you're sorry.---

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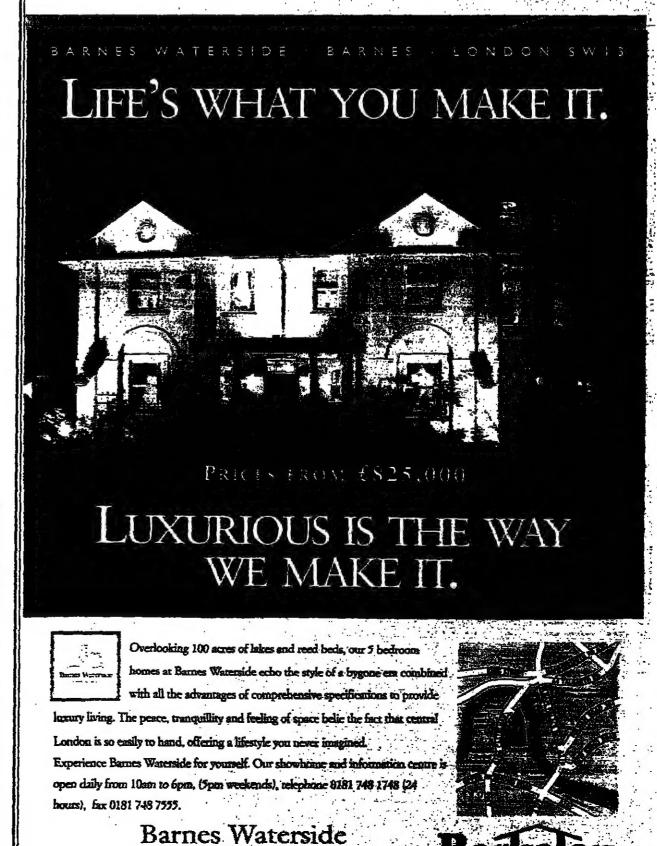




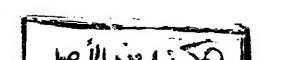
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Show girls who star in luxury locales

Rachel Kelly on the ladies who launch country houses

for leading estate agents

6 Owners

love it and

so do the

buyers 9

they grow up? Many become "show gals", the secret hidden asset of every country estate agent. These are ladies who launch country houses. Wellconnected, horsey, Jaeger-skirted and part of the county set, they are deployed by the likes of Knight Frank to show potential buyers around.

Savills, Strutt & Parker and Knight Frank all employ between 25 and 30 show gals around the country. Only three of what Knight Frank prefers to term its "showover staff" are men.

They are definitely not estate agents and are more at home in the tack room than the office. The 1993 Property Misdescriptions Act means that

the actual selling process is careful ly regulated and can be handled only by agents; it is for the show girls to step in cannot take a client around the house. Since the Act. the women

are careful about making any dubious claims about the houses that the agent cannot prove and tricky questions are referred back to the office.

Most of this staff are in their forties and fifties, married with grown-up children. Their jobs are normally obtained through contacts in a world where the smart estate agents dine with those whose houses they may soon market. Most adore their work and love. nothing more than nosing around other people's houses possibly that of their naughty neighbour who has run off with the local squire. The knowledge of who is selling. makes them hot property at

local dinner parties.
Colin Hughes, of Knight
Frank in Guildford, says: Their enthusiasm is miccstaff do their job for the love of

hat do girls in more time to it. That is why owners love it and why buyers do, too,".

> Agents also love the strategy. As the housing market improves, time has become the key and viewing women are coming into their own, especially with big houses, which take time to show. Mr Hughes says: "The practice is most mostly in excess of a quarter of a million pounds."

> Tim Dancy of Strutt & Parker's Ipswich office says: "Showover staff are very agreeable people who humanise the process of househunting. They live in the area and talk in the local terms. Crucially, they report back to the agent on the suitability of house and purchaser.

For the past four years, Jeanne Goodfellow has shown houses for Strutt & Parker around the Suffolk coast. Most of her customers wealthy. people buying second properties. She lived locally as a

child and always retained ties with the area through family and a holiday home in Thorpeness. She has shown houses since her retirement from her job as an interior design consultant.

You have to like people, she says. Feople are under-standably quite emotional when buying houses, so the process can be difficult. As the wife of a former serviceman, I've moved house goodness knows how many times. So I know the sort of stresses that people face."

Mrs Goodfellow believes that a human face and a love for the property divorced from the imperative to sell help to ease friction. Nor does she deny that common social contacts and knowing the local content sometimes help to sell

a property.
The going rate is 14 an hour.



Fay Cox, at 51, a veteran show girl. The job offers flexibility although, she says, "every day is different: there is never a dull moment"

much money," Mrs Goodfellow says, "and even then my work is highly seasonal." Show girls are busiest in spring and autumn, tradition-

ally the selling seasons. The business has become more professional since the recession. Tommy de Malet Morgan of the Savilis office in Surrey says: "Back in the 1980s, we got feedback that showover women were over the ton and sometimes a real turn-off; they would leap out at you. Business societies ran estate agents on a very hardsell basis. But these days, they not only have a good business acimen, they adore the

Salisbury, says: "A nice, charming viewing lady is much less intimidating than a 6ft 5in male estate agent like

is, however, becoming de gueur. Sheila Mc-Daniel was originally employed by Savills as a viewing woman. But the inevitable need for professionalism means that she is now

A harder edge

ager for Harleyford. She says: The idea is to make buyers plus mileage. "One would Graham Waterton, a part-they were having a day out. have to work-full-time to make - ner of Strutt & Parker in But underneath, there has to they were having a day out.

be strong professionalism because nobody buys from a shopgirl who does not know her product."

Some agents eschew the

practice. Ian Ho-

mersham, the

joint chairman of

John D. Wood,

says that his firm

does not employ

showover staff be-

cause he con-

siders the relat-

ionship with the

6 Women can find out more details 🤊

purchaser too important to delegate. "Agents should know employed as area sales manabout the house and know about the street and the locality," he explains. "You cannot expect some smart woman to

experienced Nor is it all fun. Mrs Goodfellow says she hates the iob when people do not turn up. She has travelled up to 30 miles, only to find that the viewer failed to arrive. Others complain about cold houses. dirty shoes and people who

siddle with objects. Buyers can get angry. Ms McDaniel says: "I was the meat in the sandwich. If a buyer lost out, I would bear the brunt of the anger."

Then there is the security. Only a few years ago, Suzy Lamplugh was sent by a London agent to show a property to a Mr Kipper. She has not been seen since. Knight Frank insists on maintaining especially because most showing occurs over weekends when the offices are shut. Bill Dixon, a partner of Clurrons Agents, says: "I personally would not send a single woman to any house. I think it is fraught with danger."

Their solution: recently retired "viewing men". The days of the show girl could be numbered.

Mr Dixon says: "Men can be as enthusiastic about homes, but it depends to whom they are selling. Women are able to find out more about people because they love to talk to prospective buyers. But some women may talk too much and could unwittingly frighten them

FAY'S WAY

Ten years of tramping big houses

FAY COX, 51, is a veteran show girl and the kind of woman who probably has some good jewellery in the the Knight Franks office in Though she had done a little work for a local estate agent she did not want to work as one, preferring to be on the road.

"Every day is different." she says, "There is never a dull moment." The work allows her the flexibility to spend time with her husband, an insurance broker, and her children. Both her boys are at university and her daughter hopes to follow.

Showing also allows her to continue with secretarial jobs for the Hospital for the Blessed Trinity in Guildford and another local charity. "When I have viewings during the day." she says, "I can do these jobs in the evening."

Mrs Cox is proud that she gets on with sellers and buyers alike, adding: They treat me as their contact and their confi-

She demonstrates the growing professionalism of viewing women by being aware that sellers judge the performance of the firm by reference to the competence of the show-

Mrs Cox says: "An important aspect of the job satisfaction for me is the challenge of selling a house by establishing and prioritising the needs of the buyer.

Despite her other jobs. such is her affinity with this one that she drives a Golf GTi in Knight Frank colours with a KFR numberplate.

GAUTAM MALKANI





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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Cold shows no sign of relenting

Britain slithered into the new year today in the grip of a freeze which has left many roads impassable, claimed several lives and devastated sporting fixtures. Forecasters expect the cold snap to continue into the weekend.

Temperatures are not expected to rise above a maximum of OC (32F) today. Most areas will be considerably colder with the wind-chill factor adding to the bleak outlook. A London Weather Centre spokeswoman said: "We are likely to see it very cold with some snow rather than huge falls" Page 1

Anger of Fred West film

Anger greeted the plans of a leading production company to make a film of the life of Frederick West. Peter Harris, the Official Solicitor, said that he has entered into an option contract with the Portman Entertainment Group Page 1

Philatelic theft

Harold Wilson, hounded by conspiracies, was betrayed by one of his staff "possibly from the gardener class" who stole illegal Rhodesian stamps, Government papers showPages 1, 5 Deng 'seriously ill'

A Hong Kong newspaper with close ties to the People's Liberation Army reported that China's senior leader. Deng Xiaoping, was seriosuly ill...... Pages 1. 9

Cheer for scentics

The Bank of England governor has heartened Tory Euro-sceptics by emphasising the need for "rigorous" checks to ensure that European Union countries do not fudge the conditions for entering a single currency......Page 2 Dirty election

Fresh evidence that this year's election campaign will be the dirt-

pledged to puncture John Major's "nice guy" image......Page Nurses trial Lawyers acting for the two British

iest on record emerged as Labour

nurses accused of murdering a colleague in Saudi Arabia insisted that they would help them to receive a fair trial ... Prince's plan

The Prince of Wales discloses a plan to breathe life into the nation's largest and most neglected listed buildings by turning them into low-cost housing Page 4

Nightingale in ward

The Radio I disc jockey Annie Nightingale returned to Britain after being mugged in Cuba on Christmas Eve. She was taken to hospital for a check........ Page 4

Boy's damages A boy who had to have lifesaving surgery after becoming infected with the "flesh-eating bug" has won £62,100 damages from a medical practice and the doctor who wrongly diagnosed his

Palestine haggle

After agreeing on terms for its withdrawal from most of Hebron, Israel continued to haggle with the PLO over prisoner releases... . Page 6

Saddam's fears President Saddam Hussein of

Iraq is now so afraid there are traitors within his family that he is relying increasingly on nonrelatives to be his closest political advisers Page 6 Iran election cash

The CIA was reported to have evidence that Iran secretly delivered at least half a million dollars in cash to the President of Bosnia before the electionPage 8

Dutch headache

A king-size headache settled on the Dutch Government today. The six-month ailment is called the presidency of the European

Frinton for the Continent

The long forgotten music hall artist Freddie Frinton has become a cult hero in Germany. Millions of television viewers do not believe their New Year's Eve celebrations are complete without switching on to see Frinton perform in Dinner For One, an obscure comedy routine filmed more than three decades ago in English and in black and white



Henry Cano, a kitchen artist, with his ice sculpture made from 1,600 gallons of water, outside the Dorchester Hotel, London, yesterday

nose The sustained cold snap in Europe pushed oil prices higher and prompted warnings from insurers that the nationwide freeze could soon lead to increases in both household and motor premiums _____ Page 40

House prices: The market is set for a general and sustainable strengthening this year, says the British Bunkers' Association Page 40 Jobs: Britain's engineering indus-

try is likely to lose up to 400,000 jobs through technological and product change Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 2.8 to 4118.5. Sterling's tradeweighted index rose from 95.6 to 96.1 after a rise from \$1.6910 to

\$1.7120 to and from DM2.6325 to

...Page 36

DM2.6373.

SHORT WITH

Cricket: Graham Thorpe, who has a better limited-overs record than England's other top batsmen, has been omitted from the side for the second one-day international against Zimbabwe......Page 21

Footbalk After almost a decade John Barnes remains the organiser and guide of the leaders. Liverpool. as the race continues towards the destiny of the 1997 FA Carling Premiership Page 22

ather: Preezing conditions have made deep inroads into today's sports programme, with more than 30 football matches postponed in England and Scotland Page 21 Rugby league: Joe Lydon has left Wigan after II years of significant input as player, assistant coach and

ive debot: Jessica Lange makes her West End debut in A Streetcar. Named Desire and

scores a triumph in the part of

Thumbs down: Michael McArdle's Yule Better Change, a musical version of Dickens's A Christmas Carol, struggles to satisfy its .Page 12

Blanche DuBois

seonal stops: The Royal Ballet fields two contrasting casts in its Christmas production of Ashton's Cinderella...

Spaced out: In our final part of the series If These Walls Could Speak, Nigel Hawkes visits Cape Canaveral in Florida Page 13

Guide: Family events, theatres and Page 30

IN THE TIMES ■ FILMS

Geoff Brown reviews Sleepers, with its all-star male cast, including Robert De Niro, right, and Jason Patric

BOOKS John Gribbin on parallel universes, Roger Boyes on the Vatican

Italian style: Linda Evangelista finds MaxMara worth getting out of bed for Page 10

No messing: The trouble with being a messy person is that one feels so enguised by impending: chaos that even to begin to put a bit of order into one's life is frightening. says Nigelia Lawson .. Page II Three's a crowd: Magnus Linklater has three identical scarves, all Christmas presents from his mother. Why, he wonders, does she mis-

Scoring sales: Newspapers are in fierce competition to be first with. the news. The best way to increase sales, particularly for a tabloid, is a good promotion feature..... Page 18 in her dreame: An electronic guide to BBC management; a magazine that does not spew out glossy leaflets — two of Brenda Maddox's

Show girls: Why some estate agents think their refined style may be just a little out of date... Page 19

Resolving the problem of Hebron is an indispensable precondition for the continuation of the Middle East peace process. Any further delay will only benefit the terrorists on both sides — ABC, Modrid Pows in Italy...

Preview: George Eliot's The Mill on the Floss, adapted by Hugh Stoddart, starring Emily Watson (BBCI, 9.00pm) Review: Matthew Bond finds the satire, Cuts, derivarive and overlong...... Page 39

Beneath the ice

It is in Western Europe, where in 1990 forecasters spoke of the "European decade" to come, that winter gnaws deep into society's bones and electorates readily take the imren ground as a metaphor for economic stagnation and the impotence or incompetence of politicians.....

Lieder writer

Two hundred years on, Schobert's headenly melodies live more se-curely in the hearts of music lovers than he would ever have dared to __ Page 15 Auld Freddie Frinton

In our electronic age, the traditions of the future are being created on our screens and tapes Page 15

MICHAEL GOVE

Although each taking of human life is unique and horrible there is something uniquely borrible about the scale, manner and mentality of the Wests! crime. Only organisations or individuals who had forgotten how to feel could think otherwise

SIMON JENKINS

We cannot handle good news. I believe this inability is becoming as morally debilitating as the readiness to absorb bad news. It makes us think worse of our fellow citizens. and of foreign countries ... Page 14 SIMON BARNES

In family life, generation succeeds generation in units of about 30 years. But, in sport, entire dynasties grow, reign, subside into decadence, crash and plummet, and the entire cycle takes no more than a few years Page 29

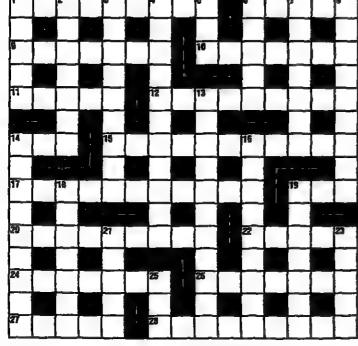
Sir William Brown, chairman of Scottish Television, 1966-90; Lew

A 1997 prayer for Africa; adoption policy; 1996 royal engagements; royal succession; Gulf War illness

Sunny

Cicloudy

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,365



- I Initial measure taken to mark Hogmanay (5-4).
- 6 Rock's penetrated by end of axe. and cracks (5). 9 With this instrument, Mary re-
- veals mysterious craft (7). 10 Englishman brings in hard
- worker that's the spirit! (7). 11 Pick up a novel (5).
- 12 Troubled lad at once relying on relations (9).
- 14 A lot of money put in pocket (3).
- 15 1997, for example (5.6). 17 Campaigner getting cross on behalf of about half the popula-
- tion (II). 19 Sound like hounds, or one of the
- horses (3). 20 Less constrained by the right, as
- this paper used to be (9). 22 Half-beartedly rush for dance (5).
- 24 Love that's intangible? (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,364

H N A ANEASI ANGER U N F

- 26 Snobbish Oxford Street occupa tion? (4.3). 27 Advanced some money in New
- Year (5).
- 28 Appropriate shift (9).

- 1 Concentrate foolishly on closing unsuccessful schools initially (5).
- 2 Disqualify lure, possibly (4,3). 3 Try to get free passes in this form of assessment (4.5).
- 4 Musical performer seen in shop. erasing errors (5.6). 5 Cap for a spinner (3).
- 6 Alice's intended to provide protect tion (5).
- 7 Make city save up for washing facility (4.3).
- 8 Lily's arm I treated poor Mary is ill, likewise (9). 13 Voters seeing what prince's pos-
- ition might have been (11). 14 In which we make seesaw, so to speak (4,5).
- 16 Not having a ring, but ready to receive one (9).
- 18 Excitement produced by a gamble (7). 19 Socialist nonsense
- Liberal, namely (7). 21 Char paper (5).
- 23 What, perhaps, to do with poodle
- (French miniature) (5). 25 Tell Arab to get a move on? Golly! (3).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

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☐ General: England and Wales will have another cold day. Eastern areas will be rather cloudy with snow showers at times. These will be most frequent over northeast England, parts of East Anglia and near Channel coasts. The West

should be mainly dry with sunray periods and just the odd anow shower. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mainly dry at first, apart from snow showers in southeast Scotland. During the day, cloud and wintry showers will extend south across northern Scotland. It will be

cold in most places, London, EAnglia, EMidlands, Channel Isles, and SE, E, SW, NE, Central S and Central N England: bright or sunty intervals, a few snow showers. Wind north-

later. Max OC (32F). ☐ W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, isle of Man: mainly dry, sunny periods. Perhaps a few light anow furnes at times. Wind northeast, moderate to fresh, Max 1C

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundes: a few snow showers at first, becoming mainly dry later.

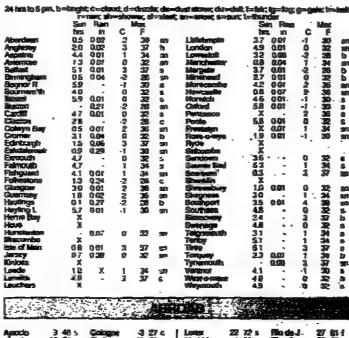
hirst, becoming menty dry later. Wind northeast, turning north, moderate. Max 2C (36F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Monay Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Ortney, Shetland: mainly dry at first, but becoming increasingly cloudy from the north, with more frequent winty showers. Wind northeast, turning north, light to moderate. Max 4C (39F).

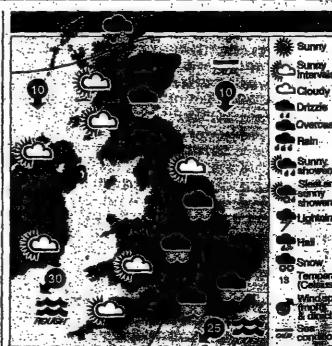
SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: mainly dry with bright or sunny spells. Wind northeast, light to moderate. Max 2C (36F).

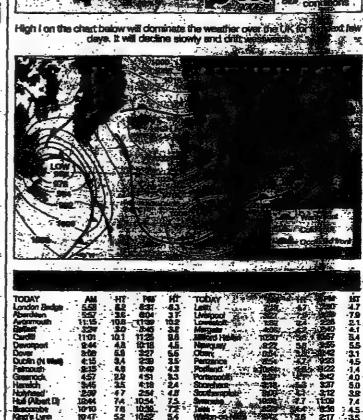
Outlook for tomorrow and Priday: rain and snow in North, moving South and dying out.

Staying cold. AROUND BRITISHE CONTOUR



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INSIDE SECTION



GOLF

Tiger remains on course to burn brighter PAGE 29



RUGBY UNION

McGeechan's plan to avoid leading Lions to slaughter PAGE 30



BUSINESS

The last laugh for software millionaires PAGES 33-38, 40

STU FORSTER / ALLSPORT

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

38, 39

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1 1997

Surrey baisman sacrificed as Atherton pursues all-round option

England drop Thorpe from one-day side

IF Michael Atherion had considered dropping himself from the England side today, he was not letting on yesterday. The captain dead-batted the suggestion that he might have been the batsman left out for the second one-day interna-tional against Zimbabwe at Harare Sports Club, which England must not lose if they are to avoid being beaten in . the three-match series.

Instead, Graham Thorpe, whose record in limited overs cricket is better than those of Atherton, Stewart, Hussam and Crawley, will be omitted so that England can play two all-rounders, Irani and White, and give themselves the secunity of six bowlers among whom to divide 50 overs, public Atherica's performance Caddick and Tunnell are also

being left on the sidelines. The idea of a many trailing 1-0 dropping its best encourage the Zimbahweans to believe that England have not followed their advice and

it may also harden the resolve of Zimbabwe to go on and win a series of limitedovers internationals for the wickets first time, Until now. Zimbabwe's best result is a 1-1 draw with Pakistan - the other match was tied - at home two

years ago.
Though England will say that the team named for today is the one that gives them the best chance of levelling the series, it is bard to believe that, if Atherion Were not captain.

he would still be in the side. Ideologically, he has little sympathy for the limited-overs format (only on Monday he referred to the Zimbabwe leg of England's winter tour as being over, even though two one day games remained to be and is in no sort of form.

sind is in no sort of form.

Since playing the decisive imings against South Africa. in Bloemfontein, a year ago, Atherion has passed 30 only twice in 17 one-day matches for England (only six of which they won) and, since arriving in Zimbabwe five weeks ago, he has accumulated only 153 wint in 11 immines. runs in II innings.

in the first one-day international, in Bulawayo two weeks ago, Atherion used up 77 balls scoring 23 runs said, finding it impossible to get out of first gear, was dismisseed attempt-ing to hit Grant-Flower, the part time spinner, over the top. Although several of his-team-mates were no less cul-

contributed to England losing a low-accoring game by two

In the past, one day internationals at Harare Sports Club have generally been high scoring affairs, but runs have come at a laborious rate during England's games there

The pitch today is not the same one as was used for the second Test match and the groundstaff yesterday took a lot of the grass off the outfield that curtailed the value of many strokes in that game, but England are still not expecting the game to be a run.

Irani will be playing his first match since his back trouble

lumbar region to ease the pain, he has worked hard in the nets with David Lloyd. John Emburey and Ian Botham, not only to acquire the stamina to bowl long spells but also to modify his action to put less strain on his back and make the ball carry through.

Irani has never been a great inger of the ball; his potential strength is to hit the pitch hard and move the ball away from the bat. The real test of his progress will come today and in the third match in the series on the same ground on

Friday.
If he can satisfy the England management that he still has a role to play, he could yet remain with the team until the end of the New Zealand leg of

duration, and Cork joining the side next week, England could find themselves with more players than they are able to

That situation already applies to Jack Russell, who has played only two days of cricket since coming here, the most recent of them three weeks ago, and with Stewart in such fine form there is little prospect of him making anything but the occasional appearance between now and the end of the tour, on March 4.

Harare enjoyed its best weather for a week yesterday, raising hopes that the match today may not be spoilt. If it is interrupted by rain, a new system of calculating revised targets will be used. It is a modification of the one used for the World Cup, but is no less complicated. Anyone rash enough to try to understand it while nursing a new year



played), is less adept than the flared up after the first one-likes of Thorpe at working the day international. Having hangover will soon be reach-Atherton unleashes a long throw during practice for the second limited-overs international with Zimbabwe ing out again for the aspirin. Operation will not affect Stone's plans for return



Stone: operation on Monday

STEVE STONE, the Nottingham Forest and England midfield player, will undergo a second operation on his injured knee next Monday, three weeks behind schedule. However, he insists that the delay has been precautionary and that he will be fit for the start of next season.

Stone, 25, ruptured his patella. tendon in a freak accident during the FA Carling Premiership game against Leicester City on September 7. With the nearest opponent two yards away, his heel slipped and his bodyweight turned over the knee as he was about to accept a routine pass close to the halfway line. He underwent reconstructive surgery two days later and, next

week, the wire that has been holding the knee together will be removed. "I talked it over with the surgeon,

who suggested that it might be as well to leave the operation until the new year, but there is nothing to worry about and the wire is not doing any harm whatsoever while it is there," Stone said.

The delay allowed Stone, capped nine times, to spend a week before Christmas in Goa, where a fellow holidaymaker told him of the resignation of Frank Clark as manager and appointment of Stuart Pearce at the City Ground on a caretaker basis. The absence of Stone, seemingly ideal as a right wing back, has been a key reason for Forest's freefall to the bottom of the FA Carling Premiership.

help the lads," Stone said. "It could not really have happened at a worse time, but, once it was made clear that there is no doubt about my playing again. I just had to work as

Leader of the pack Premiership guide ..

A naturally bubbly character. Stone broke his leg three times as a teenager and is thus aware of the frustration that long-term injury brings. He has been helping his wife, Judith, in the running of their sandwich shop in the nearby village of Bingham and has a weekly slot on local radio titled "Banter with the

Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, has monitored Stone's progress and the player could come into consideration for the World Cup qualifying game against Moldova at Wembley on September 10.

John Haselden, the Forest physiotherapist, said: The problem with Steve is that he wants to run before he can walk. The first six months is healing and rehabilitation. He will be running before the end of the season, but it would be very, very foolish to ask him to play before

Neil Lennon, the Leicester City midfield player, has been charged with misconduct by the Football Association for allegedly making estures to rival supporters. Lennon, the Northern Ireland international, was reported to the police by Newcastle United supporters for the gestures that he was claimed to have made during Leicester's 2-0 win over Newcastle on October 26.

Leicestershire police looked at a video of the incident and asked the FA to deal with the matter. Lennon has 14 days in which to respond to the charge.

Brighton have been told that they will be accepted into the GM Vauxhall Conference if they finish bottom of the Nationwide League third division, even though they will not own their own ground after this

Winter break back on football agenda

WITH the freezing weather playing havoc with the New Year's Day foolball programme matches have been lost in the FA Carling Premier-ship. Nationwide League, Vauxhall Conference and Bell's Scottish League — calls for a mid-winter break are rife again.

John Barnwell, the chief executive of the League said yesterday: "The gen-eral feeling is that there should be some kind of break. The main problems are finding a time to suit everyone and how we would plan our season.

"We would have to make sure the clubs would abide by a break and not go overseas to try to make some money. That happened when I was managing in Greece. We nipped off to play in a four-leam

Barnwell is not convinced that many clubs could afford to stay idle for

long, "Many are now pics and, when you're a corporate business, you're affected by market forces," he said. "The Christmas period is a big money-spinner.
I doubt if the finance experts at the big clubs would like to give up all that revenue."

The Premiership has been least affected by the weather, with only two names lost, Leicester City's home game against Tottenham Hotspur was frozen pitch while Derby County's match against Sheffield Wednesday was cancelled on police advice. There was no problem with the pitch, but the

approach roads to the ground are treacherous." Jim Smith, the Derby manager, said. West Bromwich Albi-

on's first division fixture with Tranmere Rovers could depend on the efforts of supporters asked to attend The Hawthorns with shovels and brushes this morning to remove snow lying on the pitch covers. If their efforts are successful, they will be given tickets for the game. Many FA Cup thirdround ties, scheduled for Saturday, are already in danger. Wycombe Wanderers have switched their match against Bradford them extra time to bring in a hot air balloon from Scotland to protect the

Llanelli's rugby union fixture against an Italian XV was lost yesterday while the all-weather card at Southwell is the only racing meeting to survive

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Leader Barnes stays ahead of the pack

he hair is receding, the feet are splayed and the pace that once made John Barnes such a thrilling athlete has to be used sparingly, no more than once or twice in a march. Yet Barnes remains in pole position, the leader, organiser and guide of Liverpool as the year turns and the race continues to wards the destiny of the 1997 FA Carling Premiership title.

When Barnes scored the final goal of the old year on Sunday, it was a model of composure, an example of the quickness of eye and the acquired knowledge of a man playing his 30th league game in almost a decade of Liverpool red. If he wins a third championship medal, he will be the link between Liverpool and the title, that was broken six years ago. "The brain speeds up, the hody slows down." Anthony Dowell, who. as a prince among baller dancers, knew something of the ageing process, said.

However, Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, having rebuilt the team around Barnes, sees it this way: "This season is defying all the normal rules. People are asking what it takes to stay up, never mind to win this championship. Leicester gave us a very difficult proposition at Anlield on Boxing Day, Southampton gave us a fair old game on Sunday ... but we've shown we are back in contention for major honours. The pleasing thing is the determination is

Determination, hunger, perseverance. Are all of these still in Barnes? Evans knows that Steve McManaman can give his team vitality, that Robbie Fowler can sneak goals from little opportunity. He must suspect that Liverpool lack a midfield enforcer in the mould of Roy Keane, of Manchester United, so he comes back time und again to his leader. "John Barnes duesn't surprise me because I see him every day in training," Evans said, "He has a vested interest in the championship - he needs it to come in the next lew years becaus he doesn't know how long he

arnes has turned from a being too laid back into possibly the pivotal performer in such a close-run championship. "It feels a long, hard season." he said. "I don't think we'll go on unbeaten, but neither will the others. The socalled lesser teams are more organised than ever before, all the top teams are capable of beating one another. This Liverpool team is potentially as good as the one in 1990: when the youngsters grow up a bit, we'll see - but a fivepoint lead is easily catchable if we are not up to it."

A glance at the table suggests that there are five main rivals. Manchester United have the desire, the redigree and the youth to be champions again. They need more from Eric Cantona and less by way of inconsistency from Peter Schmeichel in the second half of the season. They must also overcome the distraction once Europe is revisited in the the third weekend of April, we could see at Anfield the vital game. Liverpool versus Uni-

Arsenal must quickly arrest form that has wrought only three points from the past four games They need David Seaman to recover from his rib injury and Ian Wright to be less irresponsible and more irrepressible. His goals are gold dust, but he misses threegames through yet another

Wimbledon? Joe Kinnear, the manager, turning sows' ears into silk, getting the maximum from each component, works on one fifth of the audience potential of Manchester United, one tenth of the weekly income. Yet his side's 19 game unbeaten run, trusting mightily on the sprints of Ekoku and Gayle, on the promptings of Earle and Leonhardsen. fell apart at Villa Park a week ago.

It was not just that Wimbledon gifted some of the five goals, more that the team was woefully unassertive before them. Wimbledon are a defiance of logic, a romance on a shoestring and yesterday Ladbrokes shortened the odds on them from 33-1 to 25-1 to become champions.

They stand, for the moment, a place ahead of Newcastle United, How harrowed Kevin Keegan becomes as his team. with a ceiling above all others



Football Commentary

(beating Manchester United 5-0. thrashing Tottenham Hotspur 7-1), berray their pedigree through erratic defence. Peter Beardsley, older than Barnes but no less gifted in soothing a team. dips in form around this time. Newcastle also have to visit Arsenal. Manchester United. Liverpool and Wimbledon before the end of the season.

Below them, Aston Villa, have not quite recaptured the brio of last season. Losing Gary Charles and Gareth Southgate to injury, they rely over-much on Dwight Yorke and Savo Milosevic, his Serbian partner. Yet any team that can commit Sasa Curcic to the bench has an abundance of



Barnes is still calling the shots for Liverpool as he

The Premiership has a very shallow comfort zone. Chel sea, Everton, Sheffield Wednesday and, when not travelling north, Tottenham. are in it.

The Premiership is becomng better, more teams can challenge for the title," Roud Gullit, the Chelsea player-manager, said. He believes that England's performance during Euro 96, as much as the influx of foreign talent, has improved confidence in the game. Yet Chelsea, scarcely showing desire for the battle at Leeds or at Sunderland, raise the question of whether so many fine foreigners in one team destabilises the English club virtue.

They can play on the highest plane, but are they ready to respond to the tribal demands of the British way?

werton and Wednesday are nearly teams; capa-ble of frustrating anyone, but surely not ripe for honours. Tomenham are frustrating even their own supporters and their battle lies

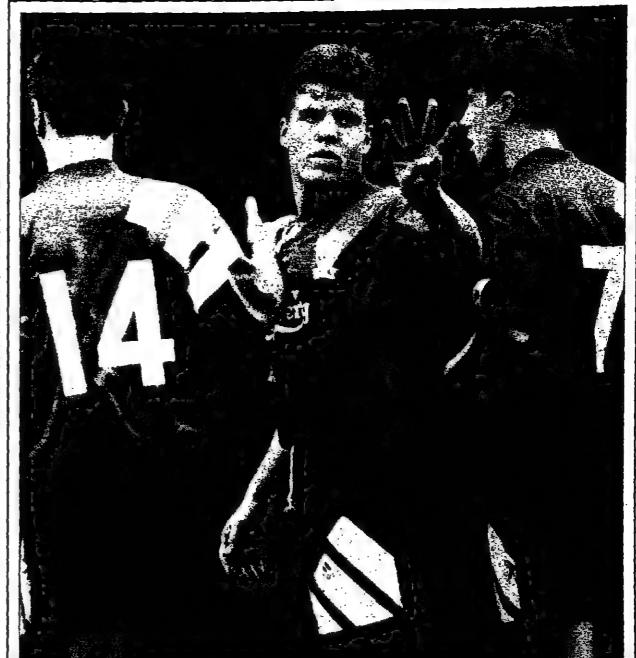
Immediately below them from Derby County down, lie the quicksands of relegation fear. Derby, Leicester City and Sunderland came up last season and all have done better than forecast, but Leicester and Sunderland, in particular, have had to run hard merely to stand still in relative midtable calm.

Coventry City, having spent £18 million and changed managers, needed a further El million speculation on Darren Huckerby to give them impetus. Four successive wins. though, have suddenly propelled them from bottom to fourteenth place and they should survive. So should Leeds United, even if George Graham's infamously pragmatic means win no friends West Ham United periodically entertain, yet still the lower

reaches entertains them. Middlesbrough, with such pensive imports and such a leaky defence, could win the Coca-Cola Cup and flirt perilously with relegation. Blackburn Rovers, re-shaped by Tony Parkes, could climb to safety now that Chris Sutton and Graeme Le Saux are fit.

Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, arrived last summer swearing: "I certainly haven't come here to be involved in a relegation battle." Some of his purchases are better than that, but the truth lies in the table, where the Saints have sinned so often with careless giveaway goals. Last, but not least, are Notringham Forest, whose archaic club structure and indecisive Frank Clark, the manager. that he was willing to decamp - e-en willing to go down to Manchester City.

Predictions are not only unkind, they are foolish when we consider that the Premiership is now as much a commercial concern as a sporting contest. Anyway, it would be easier to study meteorology and to warn of global warming while the world freezes



Bjornebye took time to settle but is now in the thick of the Liverpool action. Photograph: Clive Brunskill

Liverpool's Norwegian deliverer supplies quality on demand

dominated by the excitement over football's foreign influx. The doings of Vialii and Ravanelli. Emerson, Cruyff and Berger fill the pages of tabloid and broadsheet alike, but, in Liverpool's fine run, one of the key players has

much less heralded, foreign-He feels finally established as an ever-present this season and is playing with visible confidence. "We've been on his case for some time to improve his confidence," Roy

Evans, the Liverpool manager, said, "Confidence is a wonderful thing in football, you need to be confident to do things right, and he's been picking up on that all the

He has scored important goals this season already. beginning at Middlesbrough on the opening day, his first for the club, but he has also been a ready supplier to his forwards. After Liverpool's 0-0 draw with Sunderland, Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, was moved to say: "The only threat came from set-pieces - Biornebye's crosses are real quality.

Bjornebye arrived at Liverpool for £600.000 four years ago, in the dog days of Graeme Souness's spell as manager, as a young left back from Rosenborg BK Trondheim, then a virtually unknown club in the north of Norway, It is fair to say that

Peter Ball meets Stig Inge Bjornebye, an unsung member of the foreign legion

it took him time to settle. Arriving at a club in turmoil did not help, and the shy 22year-old struggled. "My first game, we lost 5-1 at Coventry," Bjornebye said, "and it

Norway, he looked a much better player than he did for Liverpool. "He does better away," one senior Liverpool official said at the time. Anfield seems to intimida

cedes the point. but there was also the footballing change. English football is often disparaged for its crudeness, but Bjornebye went to Liverpool, a

team playing passing football, from a more direct club side, and an international team based on the Charles Hughes philosophy, where long diagonal balls from Bjornebye's accurate left foot were a key element in their attacking play. Obviously, it was not particularly attractive, but it

was very successful.
"I prefer Liverpool," Bjorn ebye said, "but it was hard for me to get into that style. coming from the kick and rush football to playing pass

Now, confidence growing, he has adapted successfully. He began to do so two years ago, holding his place in the team that won the Coca-Cola Cup in 1995. A week later he

exterior, however, there is a

determined char-

acter, and Bjorn-

ebye battled on.

Injuries to Jones

and Harkness have opened the

way for him and

he has grabbed

suffered a broken leg and he almost a year. When he did come back. Rob Jones and then Steve Harkness stood. between him and recapturing his first-team place. Behind the quiet, polite

The only threat came from his crosses'

his chance with alacrity.
in the process he looks a better player, attacking with purpose but still defending solidly. Bjornebye himself believes

that he is now playing the best football of his career. "I'm a regular for the second time," he said, "but the first time there was too much variation in my perfor-

mances. I hope I can stay consistent this season at a high level."

He has done so thus far, revelling in the greater opportunities offered as a wing back. "It's quite a difficult

position to play in." he said.
"There's a lot of running and a lot of tactical things iti-volved, but I quite like it

"It helps if you are a strong runner. I wasn't as fit in the past as I am now. Some times, when I got the ball, I was too tired to do things with it. It's important that, when you get the ball, you the right touch and hit the right cross, rather than being

too tired and miskicking."

The greater strength is evident in his powerful running, although he plays it down. "It's nothing major, I'm not training like Limbud Christie, but, when you are coming from a broken leg to Liverpool's first team, that's a long way, and it means a lot of work," he said.

"I have to work hard at things to get better. You have got to have a steady mind, do the right things and be professional."

Nobody will doubt Biornebve's steady mind and professionalism, but Evans sees something else this sesson. "You're always delight ed to see the likes of Stig do well, because he's a great professional," Evans said.
"He's come through a

system in Norway, and in all of Scandinavia, where they are very disciplined about the whole game. Off the back of that, he has learnt now to have a bit of free spirit himself, and that's the im-

Pick up the phone PICK UP A £10 FREE BET FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$25 or more using Switch or Delia bank or building society debit cards. 'Free bet is a \$10 Correct Score single bet ou either of tonight's live on, matches. (Please place your bet on either of topight's live Sky Premiership and make your free bet selection within the same call. RING TODAY 0800 44 40 40 TOMIGHT'S LIVE PREMIERSHIP ACTION 10/11 EVERTON 9/4 DRAW BLACKBURN 5/2 BY EVEKTON 1-8 | 14/1 DRAW 2-2 B/1 BLACKBURN 1-0 16/1 BLACKBURN 2-0 15/2 EVERTON 1-1 12/1 BLACKBURN 2-1

demands proved a stumbling 8/13 MAN. UTD. 12/5 DRAW ASTON VILLA 4/1 TE/2 MAN. UTD. 13/2 MAN. UTD.

3-1 16/1 VILLA

10/1 MAN. UTD.

to strengthen their squad in their pursuit of the European Cup have been put on hold. With the qualification deadline on January 15. Alex Ferguson, the United manager.

Arsenal to confirm interest if Ince becomes available

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

ARSENAL would be tempted to bid for Paul Ince if Internazionale put him on the market. Arsone Wenger, their manager, said yesterday.

We would think it over if Paul Ince became available." Wenger said, "Yes, of course, Inter will decide the future of Ince because he is under contract, but, for his quality, ves, we would be interested. just like many other clubs. Ince who joined Inter from Manchester United, was linked with a move to Arsenai last season, but his financial

He has been the subject of racial abuse from opposing supporters in Italy and has a poor disciplinary record in Serie A, but, while Arvenal are interested in ince. Wenger said that they were not considering a bid for Jurgen Klinsmann, the former Tertenham Hotspur striker, who is reportedly unsettled at Bay-

Manchester United's plans reengnises that he may have to rely on his present squad when Ponto arrive for the recurring problem.

quarter-final in March. around, and the deadline might be coming up too soon for us." Ferguson said vesterday. "It is looking very remote now that we are going to get any player m."

Ince under contract

Through the autumn United had been closely linked with Nadal, the outstanding international defender from Strain who had been out of favour at Barcelona, but his appearance for the club in the Cup Winners' Cup, making him meligible to play for

United in Europe, ended Ferguson's interest. That is a

While Ferguson seems unlikely to buy any overseas players, surting out foreigners will be one of Frank Clark's problems at Manchester City. His first will be to deal with Nigel Clough's position. Clough is at present on loan at Nomingham Forest.

I haven't been able to talk to him so lar." Clark said, "but I need to find out what he is thinking. I would be very happy if he wants to stay at

Until Clough's position is clarified. Clark has refused to allow him to become cup-tied by playing for Forest on Saturday, Clough had been the target for some of City's disaffected supporters, but not the only one, with Liwe Rosler responding angrily to abuse at Barnsley last Saturday. "Getting stick from support-

ers isn't very pleasant, but it is part of the game, and players have got to put up with it." Clark said. "The only way they can deal with it is by performances on the pitch. It is no good asking the fans to be patient. They've been patient at this club for a long time and Robertson scored twice in the we've got to give them hope."

Duffy glories in challenge posed by Edinburgh derby

JIM DUFFY takes charge of Hibernian for the first time today for the Edinburgh derby against Heart of Midlothian at Easter Road, welcoming the "I don't think I could ask for

a better game to begin with." Duffy, the former Dundee manager, said. "If you don't feel motivated as a player for a new year derby against your local rivals, you shouldn't be in football. After that, we have Rangers coming here on Sat-urday, so I could hardly have had two more exciting

Hiberman will have to conquer their Easter Road nerves to give Duffy a winning start, for this season they have won only three games out of ten there. Duffy will be without the suspended John Hughes, but Gordon Hunter, Kevin Harper and Pat McGinlay should be fit after missing the

draw away to Aberdeen on Saturday. Hearts are likely to recall Dave McPherson, the captain. to their defence, and Neil Pointon may also return. They will be looking to John Robert-son to add to his tally of goals in these spirited encounters.

weekend and his total of league goals for the club now stands at 202, just four short of

Jimmy Wardhaugh's record. Hearts were uplifted yesterday by the return of Gary Locke, their young defender, after a seven-month absence. He played for an hour in a reserve match against Moth-

Chris Robinson as chairman of Heart of Midlothian. The men had intended to rotate the chairmanship when they took over Tynecastle, but instead have made the change halfway through their live year plan.

Leslie Deans has replaced

erwell, his first game since injuring a knee in the Scottish Cup final last May. Aberdeen travel south to

face Dundee United confident that the match will go aheadbecause of the undersoil heating at Tannadice Stewart McKimmie, the Aberdeen captain, is back in the squad after a three-match suspen-

United have moved to within three points of third-placed-4-1 win over Motherwell last. Aberdeen, whose manager,

Roy Aitken, will be looking for an improvement in form after and Celtic and the draw with

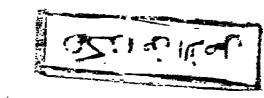
Hibernian. United have Lars Zenerlund in their squad and Torothy McLean, their manager, has added to his Scandinavian contingent by bringing in Jonas Wirmola, the Swedish defender, on a mouth's contract.

Jamie McQuilken is out with a throat infection, so Craig Easton, 18, is promoted to the first-team squad. "He has been doing well for the reserves," McLean said.

A morning inspection will determine whether the Fife derby between Dunfermline Athletic and Raith Rovers can go ahead at East End Park Dunfermline, who have conceded seven goals in their past two games, to Hearts and Celtic, expect to have Craig Robertson back in action after

a bout of influenza. Raith are strengthened by the return from suspension of John Millar, A win for Raith, who have lost their past three games, would put them level with Motherwell, whose game with Kilmarnock has been postponed because of a frozen

COVENTRY CITY

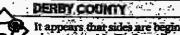


THE TIMES NEW YEAR'S DAY GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP

ARSENAL

If Arsenal cannot beat a depleted Middlesbrough, they can surely forget the Premiership. And they will still have lan

Wright, whose three-match suspension does not start until January 4; just in time for the FA Cup. Not that the Arsenal defence, which shipped water in the second half against Villa lets. half against Villa last Saturday, can afford to relax against Juninho and Ravanelli. But if Arsenal fade in the second half as they did against Villa, there must be real doubts. about their stamina.



It appears that sides are begin-ning to rimble Derby. Aljosa Asanovic, their key man, has been increasingly multified dur-ing a run of five matches in which the Premiership newcomers have accrised just two points. We have some willing workers in midfield, but he is the one we look to for a touch of quality." Jim Smith, the manager, said. Asanovic, who does not relish the physical side, can rest with file Sheffield Wednesday game inday postponed because of conditions outside the ground. RH ASTON VILLA

1997 is a special year, with Villa Park orlebrating its cemenary when Tottenham Hotspur visit on April 19. A vast array of commenceance activities are being

organised, incinding a colourful pre-match march from Perry Barr. It is also rumoured that some of Villa Park's culinary delights enuid be on offer at 1897 prices, with sausage rolls at to. In the real world, Villa take on Manchester United, at Old Trafford today, Newcastie United and Liverpool in swift succession. Happy New Year. RK

EVERTON

Everion need the new year to bring a swift change of fortune. With only one win in six games. their hopes of getting into the thick of the title race are receding fast. Their thick of the title race are receiling fast. Then record against lower opposition at Goodison in recent years, with Port Vale, Stockport and York all drawing there, is not encouraging. Today Watson, Parkinson and Kanchelskis may be pressed into service with Unsworth suspended, and both Short, and Hincheliffe out of action in the long term.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

Carring Premiership. No less than II games

have passed since the last defeat, but still-

they are merely clinging precariously from

the cost tails of the pace setters. Too many draws, was the explanation of David Pleat.

the manager. But it shows we are difficult to beat, and that is always an endearing

quality at this level." Indeed. Today.

SUNDERLAND

trips back from away fixtures and he even drops them all off outside nightclubs

occasionally. No wooder the spirit at Roker Park is so good. This mood explains why.

Caring little for dictary polit-

ical correctness, Peter Reid, the

manager, permits his players to consume traditional English

sidests, to down lagers on coach

It is difficult to appreciate from

the league tables, but Sheffield

Wednesday currently boast the

longest unbeaten run in the FA

BLACKBURN ROVERS

Blackburn will make at least one signing in the next few weeks, although Tony Parkes. the caretaker manager, will no doubt act on the advice of Sven Goran

Eriksson. Paul Ince is one name mentioned, and Oliver Bierhoff, of Germany, another. Less exotic is Mike Sheron, the Stoke City forward, whom Parkes has now watched twice, and a El million move could be in the offing. Rovers could move out of the bottom three for the first time this season if they defeat Everton today. DM

LEEDS UNITED

The holiday period was not kind to Leeds, and they need to start the new year well if the season is not to degenerate into a constant struggle against relegation. David Wetherall could return at Newcastle today, and Lee Sharpe and Rod Waliace are both hoping to be fit for a recall. If Wallace comes in Tony Yeboah seems likely to be the man at risk, his performance at Old Trafford not convincing George Graham, the manager, that he had been wrong not to play him sooner. PB

CHELSEA

Cheisea will be looking for revenge against a Liverpool team that pulverised them at Artheld. But there was no Gianfranco Zola in the Chelsea side then. Man-marking seems as unlikely for Zola as for Steve McManaman, of Liverpool, but it usually seems to baffle Liverpool when it is used. Supplied by McManaman, a fit Fowler becomes a threat to any defence. Chelsea will be hoping that Grodas's bizarre fumble that cost them on Saturday was just an aberration.

LEICESTER CITY

Ian Marshali began his career as a defender before joining the forward line to good effect at Oldham, Needs must, how-ever, and Marshall has been a revelation since Martin O'Neill, the manager, drafted him into the back three, originally as a stopgap measure. In one way the transforma-tion began within days of Marshall's arrival from Ipswich in an ES00.000 deal last August. Fed up with mickey-taking, he hacked off his flowing permed locks and thus lost his nickname of "Keegan". RH

Four wins in a row could become five for Coventry today when erratic Sunderland travel

to Highfield Road. Whatever

Gordon Strachan, the manager, has prescribed to his previously ailing troops should be bottled and sold at a fat price. such are its apparently miraculous qualities. Steve Ogrizovic, 39, revealed his secret elixir after a club record 554th appearance in the 3-0 win against Middlesbrough on Saturday, "It's true," he said, "I take cod liver oil tablets for my dodgy knees." RK.

LIVERPOOL

It is not the best way to spend New Year's Eve, traveiling for half a day on snowbound roads, then stuck in a hotel just south of London. Most of the squad will be in bed early, so the first-footing must wait until morning. Roy Evans, the manager, is hoping that celebrations will be performed after the game at Chelsea, where victory would confirm serious title aspirations. "We have been winning matches like this one. and if we maintain such resilience, then we won't be far away." he said.

T/ SEE SEE

MANCHESTER UNITED

With the FA Carling Premier ship, the European Cop and the FA Cop still in their sights, the new year holds rich promise; for United, but Alex Ferguson, the manager, spoke no soon when he said that the return of Roy Kraine and Andy Cole meant everybody was coming back to full fitness at the right time. Pallister's recurrence of a back injury and Phil Neville's glandular fewer leaves United without experienced cover defensively, with Neville likely to be out for a month.

MEDDLESBROUGH

Bryan Robson, the manager, may be just ten days short of his fortieth birthday but he is contemplating starting in mid-field at Arsenal today. Meanwhile, Vladimir Kinder, a Slovakian left back, awaits a work permit pending a mooted £1 million move to Teesside and Robson confirms he still hopes to sign Miguel Angel Nadai, the Spain defender, from Barcelona, and Paul Ince from Internazionale. "If Paul becomes available, we will be very interested," he

Liverpool

Arsenal...

4 Wimbledon

Newcastle. Aston Villa.

Chelses ...

16 West Hern...

16 Blackburn 19 Southampun

HOW THEY STAND

42 37

19 37 20 34 20 34

22 22

21 18 17

NEWCASTLE UNITED How do you bring back to carth a side who were hard done by when only scoring seven? Answer, not easily. The last time Newcastle won so well, they

embarked on a run that all but extinguished their title hopes. This time, according to Sir John Hall, the chairman, things will be different. "It is essential that we keep it going this time, and we will." he said. "No one has got away from us in the league. There will be four or five teams vying for the title — and we will be one of them." DM

and five

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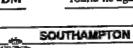
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NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Stuart Pearce will decide whether to continue as manage er for the remainder of the season this coming Tuesday, He will meet Irving Korn, the chairman. after the extraordinary meeting next week. when shareholders could decide to back a takeover bid from a local consortium. Pearce confesses to feeling the strain after just 12 days as caretaker manager and player but much will depend on results at West Ham today and in the FA Cup thirdround tie against Ipswich on Saturday.RH



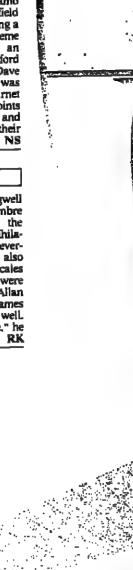
Yuri Maximov, the Dynamo Kiev and Ukraine midfield player, has impressed during a trial period, and Graeme

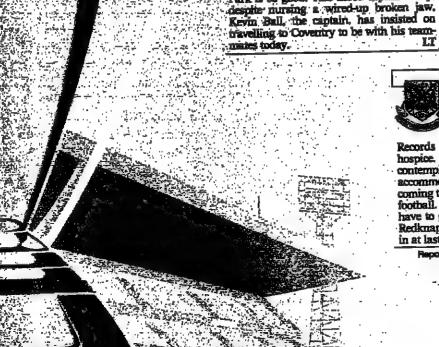
Souness, the manager, has tabled an improved offer for Matt Elliott, of Oxford United. The reaction of Souness to Dave Beasant's aberration against Liverpool was the signing of Maik Taylor, the Barnet goalkeeper. Southampton were three points better off at the same stage last season, and had even won an away game, against their opponents today, Wimbledon.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Tottenham Hotspur's Chigwell training ground was a sombre place on Monday, as the aftershock of the 7-1 annihilation against Newcastle United still rever-

berated. Amid the battered morale, it also emerged that Sol Campbell and John Scales were nursing injuries. Chinks of light were almost non-existent but the form of Allan Nielsen, the three-goals-in-three-games Danish midfield player, at least bodes well. "It is getting better and better for me." he





WEST HAM UNITED

The crowd will be blowing bubbles at half-time today in an altempt to get Upton Park into the Guinness Book of Records and raise money for a local

hospice. Harry Redknapp, the manager, contemplates changing a winning team to accommodate Raducioiu, who is finally coming to terms with the rigours of English football. "You have to work hard and you have to get kicked up in the air at times,"
Redknapp said. "It looks as if that is sinking
in at last."

KP

CHELSEA V

LIVERPOOL

16-YEAR RECORD: 3-8, 1-1, --, 2-5, 4-2, 2-2, 0-0, 1-0, 0-0, 2-2.

HOW THEY LINE UP

CHELSEA (from): F Grodes, M Duberry, R Guillet, S Clarke, D Petrescu, C Burley, R di Matteo, E Newton, S Minto, M Hughes, G Zola, F Leboeut, A Myers; D Wise, F Sincleir, M Nicholls, K Hitchcock,

SOUTHAMPTON V

10-YEAR-RECORD: 2-2, 2-2, 0-0, 2-2, 1-1, 1-0, 2-2, 1-0, 2-3, 0-0.

SOUTHAMETON (from): D. Beesant, F. Benail, C. Lundekvarn, N. Meddison, A. Neilson, E. Bentovic, U. van Gobbel, M. Robinson, S. Chedton, R. Stater, G. Watson, E. Ostenstad, D. Hughes, M. Le Tissier, M. Celdey, S. Beathart, M. Taylor.

WANTER EDON (from): N. Suswan, D. Jupp, B. McAllister, D. Blackwell, A. Kimble, N. Ardley, V. Jones, K. Cunninghern, O. Leonhardsen, E. Biolau, M. Garrier, D. Holdsworth, M. Hartord, P. Feer, R. Earle, C. Perry, B. Marphy.

WIMBLEDON

TICKETS: Sold out

HOW THEY LINE UP

Broke

"A phenomenal year," was the verdict of Joe Kinnear, the manager, on 1996. "The players should be proud of what they

said.

Everton, where the absence of influenza victims Earle, Holdsworth and Perry meant the return of McAllister, a midfield role for Cunningham, a right back, and a full debut for Duncan Jupp, the Scotland under-21 international, a £200,000 close-season signing from Fulham. All three could continue

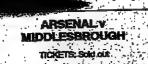
Reports: Brien Gierwille, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Richard Hobson, Louise Taylor, Nick Szczepanik, Keith Pike, David Maddock: Statistics; Julian Desborough



WIMBLEDON

have achieved." Only 18 to go after victory at

at Southampton.



10-YEAR RECORD -- - 3'0, -- -- 1-1, -- 1-1. HOW THEY LINE UP ARSENAL (from): J Lukic, R Pariour, S Bould, M Keoven, A Adams, N Winterburn, P Vielta, R Gerde, P Merson, D Bergkamp, I Wright, J Hartson, P Shaw, S Morrow, S Marshall, A Linighan, M Rose, V Rostra

MIDDLESBROUGH (from): G Walsh, C Lidtle, C Morris, S Vickers, B Robson, N Cox, Emerson, C Blackmore, M Beck, F Ravenell, Jurishho, C Hignett, D Whyte, J A Frontolt, A Campbell, M Summerbell.

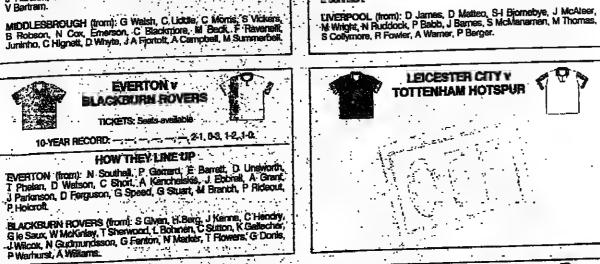
LEADING SCORERS

15: Ian Wright (Arsana)
13: Alen Sheerer (Newcaste United)
11: Robble Fowler (Liverpool), Designt Yorke (Aston Villa),
11: Robble Fowler (Liverpool), Designt Yorke (Aston Villa),
12: Fibrizio Ravanelli (Michelanough), Las Ferdinard (Newcaste
12: Fibrizio Ravanelli (Michelanough), Las Ferdinard (Newcaste
13: Ian Wright (Assana)
14: Table (Michelanough), Elem Eloku (Winduledon)

13-8: Liverpoot 7-4: Manchester United 5-1: Arsenia Neurosalle, 12-1: Aston Villa: 25-1: Circleto, 33-1: Windledon, 56-1: Swinter.

الأراب والمستقب والمتعادر والمناسب والمستقب

led in Lethrokes



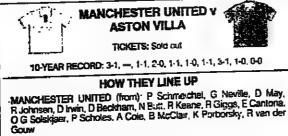
COVENTRY CITY V SUNDERLAND

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: -. -, --, --, 0-0, --, --, --

HOW THEY LINE UP COVENTRY CITY (from): S Ogrizovic, R Shaw, L Daish, P Williams, D Burrows, P Tetter, E Jess, G McAllister, J Salako D Dublin, N Whelan, M O'Neill, K Richardson, B Borrows, M Had, J Filan, P Ndlovu.

SUNDEPLAND (from): L. Parez, G. Haif, D. Kubicki, A. Mehvile, P. Ord. D. Kelly, P. Bracawell, S. Agnew, M. Smith, S. Aiston, A. Pae, C. Russell, M. Bridges, M. Gray, P. Stewart, D. Preece.



ASTON VILLA (from): M Bosnich, F Nelson, A Wright, U Ehiogu, S Staunton, R Scimeca, I Taylor, M Draper A Townsend, D Yorks, S Milosevic, S Curcic, C Tiler, J Joachim, T Johnson, M Oakes,



WEST HAM UNITED V NOTTINGHAM FOREST

TICKETS: Seets available 10-YEAR RECORD: 1-2, 3-2, 3-3, --, --, 3-0, --, --, 3-1, 1-0.

HOW THEY LINE UP WEST HAM UNITED (from): L. Miklosko, T. Breacker, S. Bilic, M. Rieper, J. Dicks, M. Bowen, D. Willamson, I. Bishop, J. Moncur, M. Hughes, M. Newell, H. Portino, F. Raducioru, F. Lampard, S. Jones, K. Rowland, L. Sceley, S. Potta, M. Omoyinmi, L. Hodges.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from): M Crossley, S Pearce, D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, I Woarr, D Phillips, S Blatherwick, S Germall, D Seunders, A I Haaland, K Campbell, N Jerkan, N Clough, C Allen, B Roy, A Fettis, S Guinan.





TICKETS: Sold OUR 10-YEAR RECORD: --, --, --, 5-2, --, --, -- 1-1, 1-2, 2-1

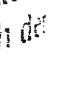
HOW THEY LINE UP NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): S. Hislop, S. Walson, D. Peacock, P. Albert, J. Berestord, Y. Gilliespie, D. Batty, R. Lee, P. Beardsley, L. Ferdinand, A. Shearer, L. Clark, W. Barton, P. Smicek, R. Elliott, P. Kitson, D. Smicek, R. Elliott, P. Smicek, R. Ellio

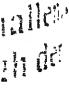
LEEDS UNITED (from): N Martyn, G Kelly, A Dongo, C Palmer, G Halle, P Beesley, L Radebe, L Bowyer, M Jackson, I Rush R Wallace, B Deane, A Yeboah, A Gray, I Harte, M Ford, M Beeney, L Snarpe.

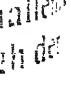
صدار أعسان أنشان

Som Sky Sports 1 Football Special Everton v Blackburn Rovers (5,45) (Live) Manchaster United v Aston Villa (8,0) (Live) 11.05pm BBC 1 Match of the Day (Highlights)

The official Internet site of the FA Carling Premiership is at http://www.fa-carting.com/







CRICKET: SLIDE INTO SECOND DIVISION STATUS CONFIRMED

Test league table offers England little comfort

to digest but there is a silver lining of sorts to the two drawn Tests in Zimbabwe during December. By achieving stalemate against the most junior of significant cricket nations. England managed to keep Zimbabwe beneath them in the league table of the year's

Test matches.

One defeat would have left England last of the nine countries, a previously uncon-

This is perhaps no better or worse than the majority have come to believe during a depressing year in which England won only one of nine Tests, the Edghaston match against India in June. The league table, however, gives credence to the withering assertion of Alistair Campbell, the captain of Zimbabwe, that England should now be ranked alongside his country and New Zealand as the worst



Gough: big part to play

MA DG AD CE

Alan Lee identifies the partnership that offers some hope of reversing a decline

None of these three teams can boast a single bowler sufficiently penetrative to regularly take five or more wickets in an innings, the timehonoured measure of Test quality, and, without such bowlers, no side is likely to win very often. Unless England can swiftly harness Dominic Cork with Darren Gough. and hope they bring the best out of each other, it is difficult to see this situation altering

The superficial nature of any table covering only 12 months is advertised by the presence of Sri Lanka in first place. They played only three Tests in 1996 and lost the first of them to Australia by 148 runs, completing a 3-0 series defeat. Their misleading position is entirely due to two

Whatever the outcome of their present series, against West Indies and India, respectively, their three-Test meeting in South Africa in March, and the return bout in Australia, which begins in December, promise to be among the heavyweight highlights of this

> By their own, hectic standards, Australia had an idle year in 1996, but the same will not be said of 1997, when they are scheduled to play 15 Tests. Interestingly, England played

> comfortable wins over Zimbabwe in Colombo during Sep-

> tember, hardly the mark of

world champions at this form

of the game.

More realistically, Australia

and South Africa share second

place, having each won three

and lost two of their five Tests.



Cork: hope for future

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more than anyone in 1996, when two-thirds of the total of 28 Tests produced a definite result. They are due for the same number, nine, in the coming 12 months, including six summer Tests against Australia.

Pakistan won the most matches and would have their supporters in any argument over the most powerful of modern Test teams, an argument that has gathered intensity in recent years and is now increasingly in need of a measure of official adjud-

Since the calls for a league championship of Test cricket were first made, both in The Times and Wisden, support for the idea has been growing in volume and weight.

Various countries have promised their backing and, while others remain sceptical. Australia notable among them, the matter is now sure to be debated at the summer meeting of the International Cricket Council.

Wisden's proposal for an ongoing table, in which the result of each series between pairs of countries is replaced by the outcome of the next corresponding series, seems well worth exploring.

If this was in operation now. however, few arguments would be resolved as first place would be shared by three countries - Australia South Africa and West Indies. England would be placed two from bottom.

One-day cricket gives England supporters little consolation these days and, again only Zimbabwe, of Test-play ing nations, fared worse than Michael Atherton's team dur-

A woeful World Cup campaign, preceded by six one-day defeats in South Africa, was

largely responsible.

The number of one-day matches continues to spiral alarmingly. There was an average of one such game every three days during 1996 and Pakistan, those voracious disciples of the art, played 38

Cup with vibrant, innovative cricket, Sri Lanka finish only second in the year's ex-

changes. South Africa are clearly top by dint of a remarkable record of 25 wins from 30 limitedovers games. I thought at the time they should have won the World Cup. Now I am certain



Taylor, despite building a fine record as Australia's captain, has not passed 50 in his past 12 Test innings

Australian certainties undermined

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA are still licking their wounds after surrendering the third Test to West Indies in Melbourne last week, but, in the world of modern international cricket. there is not much time for reflection. Today, at the Sydney Cricket Ground, it is on with the motley as the Carlton and United series resumes with a day-night match between Australia and Pakistan. The what series? You may well ask. The annual three-

been renamed, but the effect remains the same. At the height of the Australian summer three teams play off for places in a best-of-three final later this month. Although it is nonsense cricket, it generates plenty of dollars for the Australian Cricket Board and stimulates what Ken Dodd calls the "chuckle muscle".

In the aftermath of the Test defeat, however, Australians are beginning to wonder if there is too much one-day cricket. For the first time, last year, their team played more days of limited-overs cricket than the Test variety. They remain the best side in the world over five days but, to remain there, there may have

to be an adjustment of interest. To English eyes, it seems peculiar that a single defeat has led to such agitated dehate, particularly as Australia. still lead in the series, but there is a general feeling that field Shield — the domestic equivalent of the English county championship - count for less than they once did.

A proposal from the Victorian Cricket Association, to reduce the number of games played, and to avoid clashes with Test matches, has been received sympathetically. At and Langer are quite as good the moment Australia Test as they have been marked.

players turn out infrequently for their state sides. David Boon, who retired last year. once went a whole season without playing for Tasmania and Mark Taylor, the national captain, is not often found opening the batting for New

A debate about the quality of the domestic game is familiar to English cricket-lovers. To Australians, who have come to regard the Sheffield Shield as the strongest competition in the world, the events of the last week have come as a bit of a shock. All of a sudden are our bright young sparks?

. It has not yet reached the point where runs have become a faise currency, but, as they struggle to find replacements for Boon and Border, and Dean Jones for that matter, people are wondering whether the likes of Ponting. Bevan

Ponting has been dropped from the Test side, Bevan is in and out and Langer must wait to see whether he is retained for the fourth Test, in

This fevered debate has even extended to Taylor, an outstanding captain who has not passed 50 in his past 12 Test innings. The fact that he lacks a regular opening part-ner has not helped him come to terms with this loss of form. although he claims not to be

concerned about his lean trot. When he could do with getting some decent match lead Australia in this interminable one-day series. By the time they meet. West Indies in Adelaide on January 25. Australia will probably have played another eight limitedovers sames. Stuart Law and Tom Moody return to the fold and Andrew Bichel, a fastmedium bowler, makes his international debut....

Knighthood brings Bedser just reward for old-fashioned virtues



Sir Alec big-hearted

be awarded to anyone from the world of cricket, picked out his services to the game as a player and an administrator. There could be no mention of his unwavering. uncompromising defence of oldfashioned virtues, whether to do with batting, bowling, business or behaviour, for which he is so widely renowned.

It was Arthur Mailey, the Australian artist, wit and leg break and googly bowler, who first said. when another batsman was given a handle to his name, that the fast bowler to be knighted was Sir Francis Drake. That was before

The citation pertaining to Gubby Allen and Richard Hadlee Alec Bedser's new year were given their knighthoods, and knighthood, the fifteenth to they both made Test hundreds in addition to bowling fast and well. For many years, too. Alien had been the eminence grise at Lord's

when the honour came his way. As a cricketer. Bedser was a bowler pure and simple. From the time he took 22 wickets in his first two Test matches, against India in 1946, until his batteries started to run down in 1954, he was the pillar of England's attack. The Australians brought the best out of him. as well as taking him to their hearts. In successive series against them, there in 1950-51 and in England in 1953, he took an astonishing 66 wickets at 17.6 apiece.

John Woodcock pays tribute to a great England bowler who still commands universal respect

Sir Donald Bradman still talks about the leg cutter with which Bedser bowled him for a duck in the first innings of the Adelaide Test match in 1946-47. They have been the firmest of friends since and have kept in regular touch. Nobody will be more delighted than the Don that, 40 years on. Alec has now been knighted. though many will be just as plea-sed, the Prime Minister, an inveter-

ate Surrey supporter, among them,

nearly identical twin, Eric.

Broad-shouldered, big-hearted and with a classical action, Alec Bedser bowling was a study in marble and bronze. With his great hands, be could make the leg cutter behave like a fast leg break, and no sun was too hot or day too long for him. He gained pace off the pitch, just as Maurice Tate, another from the same mould, had. If I saw Alec bowl a long hop. I do not remem-ber it. Even today, nothing vexes him more than a young bowler with a 30-yard run-up landing the ball in his own half of the pitch. It was always fun, as indeed it still is, to be present at Alec's daily, rather high-pitched, lamentations. He still has much wisdom to impart, but the young do not listen any more as they think he is out of date. That is a real sudness, and they do not know what they are

'As a selector from 1962 to 1989 and chairman from 1969 to 1981, as manager of two MCC sides to Australia and assistant manager of another, as president of Surrey in 1987 and as someone who answers every call upon his good nature, readily and free of charge, Bedser adds renown to the following list of cricketing knights, given in alpha-

951

betical order.

Sir George "Gubby" Allea, Sir Donald Bradman, Sir Neville. Cardus (though his services to music were a contributory factor). Sir Colin Cowdrey, Sir Richard Hadlee, Sir Jack Hobbs, Sir Leonard Hutton, Sir Francis Lacey (secretary of MCC, 1898 to 1926). Sir Henry Leveson-Gower, Six Garfield Sobers, Sir Frederick Toone (manager of three MCC tours to Australia), Sir Pelham Warner, Sir

Clyde Walcott and Sir Frank Worrell. The third of the three Ws. Sir Everton Weekes, is another. though his public service in Barbados, as well as his prowess at bridge, which he played interna-tionally, may have had something to do with that.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Bristow pitches for knockout contest

ERIC BRISTOW, the former "King of Darts", became the first player to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Red Band world championship at Purfleet vesterday but then launched an attack on the group system.

Bristow scrambled through to the last eight, despite a 3-1 defeat by Gary Mawson, as he had the best legs difference in his three-man group. He had former Embassy world champion, in his opening match. with Anderson then beating Mawson, and the triangle being completed with the Mawson's victory yesterday.

However, Bristow had a difference of plus four, 20 legs to 16, with Anderson, at 17-17. in second place and Mawson third at 16-20. After his deleat. Bristow said: "I think that if you are beaten in any match then you should be on your

"Let's have 32 players and a straight knockout I worked it out last night that having beaten Bob Anderson by 11 legs to six I could afford to lose by four legs to Mawson and still get through to the quarters."

Squash: Simon Parke, of Yorkshire, has followed up his return to national No I with a promotion to No 5 on the new world ranking list, issued yesterday by the Professional Squash Association on which Jansher Khan, of Pakistan, the world champion, maintains his long tenure at No I.

Rugby league: Norland, an amateur team from Humberside, have been ejected from the Silk Cut Challenge Cup for playing two registered professionals in their first round victory over Milton. The Rugby Football League ruled that Norland fielded two prolessionals in Rob Hutchinson (Hull KR) and Darren Grice (Featherstone) and reinstated

Tennis: Martin Lee, of Great Britain, is thirteenth in the end-of-year ITF junior world rankings for boys singles and fourth in the doubles. Sebastien Grosjean, the Eurorean champion, from France. topped both events, with Amelie Mauresmo, his compatriot, taking the girls' singles. In the girls' doubles, Ekaterina Roubanova was eighth for Britain.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL SAN DIEGO, Holiday Bowli Cobristo 33 Washington 21

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SHOW REPORTS Conditions Runs to Plate Off/p resort ANDORRA 25 155 good powder good anow: -2 31/12 (Excellent skiing with light powder at all levels) AUSTRIA 10 50 key varied let sun 10 25/12 can snow available but key petones on busy runs]
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Source: Sky Club of Great Britain - - - L - lower slopes: U - upper.

The Times calendar of sport 1997

England no longer the main draw

Australia should retain the Ashes easily Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, says

this may sound a heresy, but it is a stark measure of England's cricketing decline that the Ashes series this summer barely rates a mention on Australia's current agenda. They have business to conclude with West Indies and an unresolved argument with South Africa. Only then will attention turn to a contest in which success is no longer a hope but an expectation.

Of the four Ashes series in the past eight years, England's best performance came in the most recent, which they only lost 3-1. The match tally, over that period, reads 14 wins by Australia, two by England and six garnes drawn. Small wonder that the possibility of surrendering the little urn this year will not cross the mind of a single Australian.

This lack of respect for English cricket is, of course, not endemic to Australians but tradition dictates that it is their scorn which hurts the most. The length and strength of the oldest rivalry in the game still has a unique attraction in this country and the lowering of a reciprocal regard is to be regretted and resented.

There is one glaringly obvious solution: the primacy of the Ashes would be restored immediately if only England could win this summer. However, having recently seen Australia demolish West Indies twice, and contrasted it with England's labours against the country cousins of Zimbabwe, I cannot offer much confidence.

To win Test matches with any consistency, a team needs batsmen capable of amassing 350-plus in most first imings and bowlers equipped to dismiss opponents twice. England have neither: Australia have both.

This is no longer a settled Australian side. There have been enforced changes to the top order, with Michael Slater out of sorts and no obvious replacement for the retired David Boon yet identified. With Craig McDermott seam bowling depends overmuch on the emerging Glenn

They could be thought vul-nerable if only England would show a little form ... and if only Shane Warne was not edily restoring the selfthe most effective wicket-taker in the world today. If Warne maintains his recovery from career-threatening injuries to spinning finger and shoulder, he will provide a treat for spectators and a recurring nightmare for batsmen

be managed by Alan Crompton. coached by Geoff Marsh and captained, barring un-foreseen calamities, by Mark break at home following their series in South Africa and will not arrive in London until May 13. They play two days later, gratifyingly upholding one fine tradition by visiting Arundel as the first of four one-day fixtures prior to the Texaco Trophy, staged this year at Headingley, the Oval

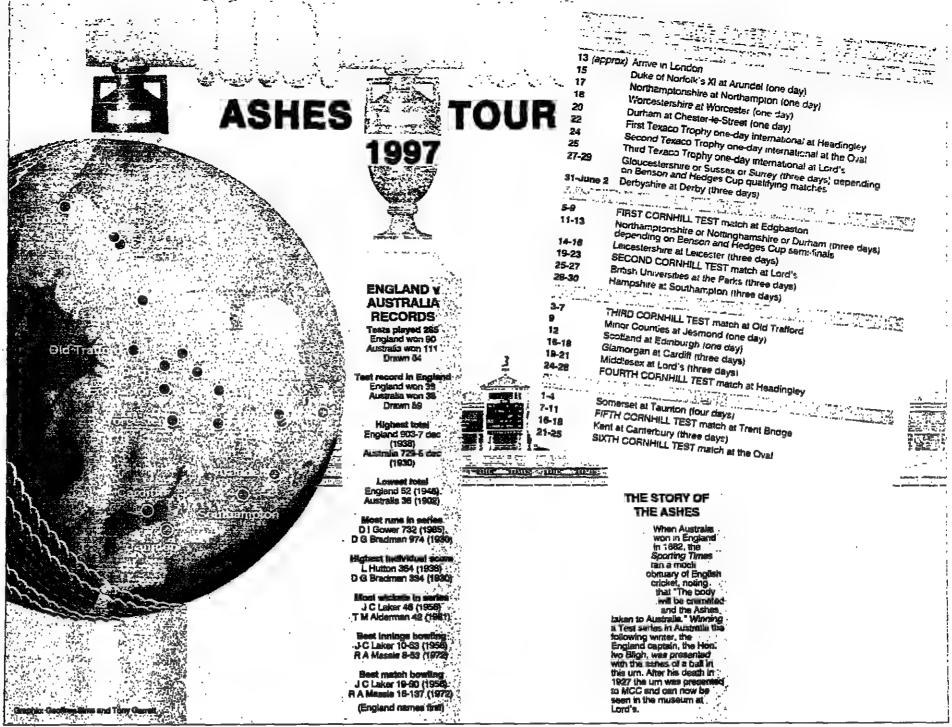
tential of the summer. With the possible exception of Headingley, where dwindling Test crowds are almost as great a concern as the deterio-

Warne apart, interest in the Australians this year may focus on the remarkable Steve Waugh, argued by some sta-tistics to be the best Test match continually prone to injury the player in the world, and on the

around England. The Australians, who are to

gramme until May 27 and will games before the first Combill Test, at Edgbaston on June 5. After such a demanding programme between October and April, however, rustiness is unlikely to be a weakness for England to exploit. There are to be six Tests in

the series, an illogical number designed unashamedly to maximise the commercial porating behaviour within them, every venue is likely to sell out its first three days well in



stringy, skilful McGrath, of whom English audiences as England's best prospects of

being competitive rest with a new-ball attack of Dominic Cork and Darren Gough, thus far irritatingly elusive, and nerhans on the emergence of young men such as Chris Silverwood, Mark Butcher and Adam Hollicake.

It was Hollioake who captained England A's successful tour of Australia this winter, making a start at chipping away a decade of growing contempt. There much more to be done before Australian respect is fully recovered.

Jan 3: Third one-day international. Zim-babwe v England, Herare: World Sense. Www.tnoises.v.Pulysten, Birkbund, Jan 5: World Series, Australia v West Indies, Brisbane Notice:
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Jen 12: World Senes, West incles v Australia, Perth.
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Mathourne Jan 16-20: Third Test match, South Ainca v India. Johannesburg

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England. Auckland
Jan 25: Triangular tournement, South Africa
v Zimbabwer, Centurion
Jan 25-28: Fourth Test match, West Indias
v Australia. Adelaide v Australia, Adelaide
Jen 27: Trangular tournament, India v
Zimbobies, Paari
Jan 29: Triangular tournament, South Ainca
v Zimbobies, Cape Town
Jan 30-Feb 2: Tour match, New Zealand A
v England, Wingamu
Jen 31: Trangular tournament, South Arrica
v Zimpatowe, Johannesburg
Feb 1-5: Feb Test match Wed Indias v
Australia, Perth
Feb 2: Trangular tournament, India v South

Feb 7: Trangular (pumament, India v Zmhabwe, Centunon Feb 9: Trangular roumament, India v Zmhabwe, Benori Empleowe, Benork Feb. 12; Thangular tournament, final, Digram Fab 14-18: Trad Test maton, New Zealand Feb 14-18: Trad Test mater, New Zesland v England, Christchurch Feb 15: First pre-day international Zimbabwe v India, Bulawaya Feb 17: Section to nev-day international, Zimbabwe v India, Hariare Feb 20: First che-day international, New Zesland v England Christoffuct; Feb 23: Second pre-day international, New Zesland v England, Aurilland Feb 26: Truro onsi-day international New Zesland v England, Hapoti Feb 28-Mar 4: First Test match, South Almas v Australia, Johannesburg

OVERSEAS CRICKET

Zestano V England, Wallington Mer 8-10: Frot Test match West Indies v Indie, Jamanca Mer 7-11: First Toot match, New Zealand v Shi Lanke, Hamston Mer 14-18: Second Test match, Wost Indico v Indie, Thindad, Second Test match, South Altica v Australia, Port Elizabeth, Second Test match, New Zealand v Shi Lanke, Wellington Mer 23-5: Thad Test match, South Altica v Australia, Pretora Mar 25: First one-day international New Tealand v Shi Lanka, Auckland Mer 23-Apr 15: CC Trophy, Maheyou Mar 25: Second one-day international New Zealand v Su Lanka, Chinchusch Mar 25-Apr 11: Third Test match viest Indies v India, Baroados Mar 27-Apr 11: Third Test match viest Indies v India, Baroados Mar 27-Apr 11: Third Test match viest Indies v India, Baroados Mar 29-Trud one-day international New Zealand v Shi Lanka Duneddr. First one-day international South Alnoa v

Afficial y Australia, Capa Town
Apr Si Fourth one-day infernational, South
Africa y Australia, Durban
Apr 8, First one-day infernational. South
Africa y Australia, Johannesburg
Apr 10, Sont one-day infernational. South
Amoa y Australia, Cantonon
Apr 11-14, Fourth Test match. West Indies of
India, Antiqua
Apr 13: Seventh one-day international.
South Africa y Australia. Bloomlottion
Apr 17-21; Fint Test match, West Indies of
India, Guy Ama Apr 17-21; First fear reside, West modes a findle dynamic Apr 26; First one-day international West indice a findle, Translad Apr 27; Second one-day international West indice a findle and Translad Apr 30. The dishelf-day incentional West indice, India, St. Amoent Mary 3; Fourth one-day, increasional West indice a lindle Barroados.

APRIL

16-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days) Fermen's, Cambridge University v Di The Parks: Odord University v Duffa 16-COUNTY MATCH (four days) Headingley: Yorkshire v Lancashire Headingley: Yorkshire v Lancashire 18-CHALLENGE MATCH (Bust days) * Edgbaston: England A v The Rest UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days) * Fermer's Cambridge University v "Fermer's Cambridge University v
Leleastershire
The Parks Oxford University v Hampshire
23-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chelmstord: Essex v Hampshire
Cardiff Glamorgan v Warwickshire
Cardiff Glamorgan v Warwickshire
Old Tratford: Lancashire v Durham
Leicester: Leicestershire v Gloucestershire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Wordestershire
The Oral: Surrey v Somereat
Hove: Sussex v Northamptonshire
UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)
Fermer's: Cambridge Liniversity v Middlesex
The Parks: Christian Liniversity v Middlesex

Oniversal v service in the control of the control of the Parks: Oxford University v Noticibine set university MATCH (one day).

The Parks: Build Universities v Yerischire. 27-AXA LIFE LEAGUE Cheimsford. Essex v Hampshire Chemisterd. Essex v Hampshire
Cerdiff. Gramogan v Warwolcahre
Canterbury: kert v Derbyehin
Old Tratford: Lancashire v Durtem
Lelicaster. Lancashire v Bourtem
Tent Bridge. Notterghamshire v Wort
The Oval. Surrey v Somerset
Hove: Susser v Northamptonshire
28-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Chalmetord: Essex v Glamogan

B-BENSON AND MEDIAS CUP
Chelmstoric Essex v Glamorgen
Bristol: Gloucesterchire v British Universities
Dublin (Casite Avenue) Ireland v Middlesex
Old Traffordt Lancastershire v Sortishire
Leicester Leicestershire v Sortishire
Lakenham: Minor Counties v Derbyshire
Trent Bindge: Notinghamshire v Durham
The Ovel: Sursey v Kent
Hove: Sussex v Hampshire
Mocasters Worcestershire v Warwickshire

Howe, Sussex v Hampshire Worcester: Worcestershire v Werwickshire 30-BENSON AND HEDIGES CUP Fenner's: British Universities v Sussex Chester-le-Street: Durham v Northemptonish Bristot: Goucestershire v Surrey Centerbury; Kert v Hampshire Old Tratford: Lencashire v Derbyshire Leicestershire v Notlinghemshire Lord's: Middlesex v Essex Taunton: Somerset v Glamorgen Edgbaston Warwickshire v Minor Countes Headingtey: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

MAY

2-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP BENGON AND INCIDENCE OF Derby, Derbyshe v Yorkshee Cardiff; Glamorgan v Middlesex Southampton: Hampshee v Glouces Carlierbury; Kent v Sussex, Trent Bindge; Notinghamshire v Northamptonshire v Northamptonshire v Trenting Southamptonshire v Ireland The Ovel: Surrey v British Universities beston: Warwickshire v Lancashke bester: Wordestershire v Minor Counties AXA LIFE LEAGUE
Darby: Derbyshire v Lancashire
Chelmstord: Essex - Middlesex Chartestoric Essex v Medicesex Southermation: Hempshire v Yorishire Centenbury; Kert v Surrey Tearnion: Somersic v Glemorgan Howe Sussex v Northermation Edipliestoric Warnwolshire v Northermatic Jobbston August Warnwolshire v Northermatic Jobbston August Warnwolshire v Northermatic S-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP 5-BENSON AND HEDGES CLIP
Darby: Derbyshino v Worcestershine
Chester-te-Street: Ourbain v Leicostershine
Chester-te-Street: Ourbain v Leicostershine
Chester-te-Street: Ourbain v Leicostershine
Carritte (Samorgan v Hebrat
Southampton: Hampshine v Surrey
Carrietter, Ken v Bribsh Universities
Webself: Minor Counties v Langeshine
Northampton: Northamptonshine v Sociand
House: Susses v Goucestershine
Ediglossion: Wanackshine v Yorkshine
Febrat Annuc Assurance: Chester (Onschille
Darbae Destrychie v Surrey

Derby: Derbyshire v Surrey Hartlepools Durham v Nothinghamshire

FIRST-CLASS CRICKET FIXTURES Briefol: Gloucestershire v Hempehre Lord's: Middlinex v Susses ddimer, v Susses don: Nostnamptonshire v Somense - Wormsdamhrin v Licossanshire Headingley: Yorkshire v Glemorgen UNIVERSITY NATCHES (sven dere) Fermer's: Cambridge University v Essa The Parks: Oxford University v Wilmarck 11-AXA UFFE LEAGUE Derby: Derbyshire v Suffey Hertlepool: Dunam v Nozing British: Gloucestratish v Her Lande: Middlinger v Sustem

2-BENSON AND HEDGER CUP The Parks, British Universities, v Hampehire Derby, Derbyshire v Warwedeshrie Briefot Gloucemanning v North

Derby: Derbyshire v vranvocarie Britist Guideline v Visavi Downgabrick ingland v Esser Old Trializant Lancaries v Wardersundre Lord's: Middlesex v Somerset Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Northampton: Sure v Susser Headingley: Yorkshire v Minor Countess v British Northampton: Hampshire v Lecosariem Southermpton: Hampshire v Lecosariem Codematon: Esper v Durtom Southermpton: Hampshire v Lecosariem Codematon: Hampshire v Lecosariem Codematon: Sure v Bothyshire Tauton: Somerset v Susser The Ows: Surrey v Gloucesteration Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Yorkshire Life Codematon: Codematon Codematon

15-TOUR MATCH (one day) Arundet: Duke of Nortok's XI v Australians Arunden June 4 (one day)
17-TOUR MATCH (one day) Northampton: Northamptonshin UNIVERSITY MATCH (one day) Fenner's: Cambridge v Oxford 18-AXA LIFE LEAGUE nd: Essax v Durham

Cheimstord: Essav v Durham Southumpohr: Hamposhne v Leicestershire Camerbury: Kert v Germorgan Old Tradford: Lancashne v Nottinghamahre Lord's: Middleger v Derbyshire Taurifort: Somerset v Sussex. The Ovel: Surrey v Gloucestershire Edghestort: Warwickshire v Yorkshire Edgbeston: Warwarss -TOUR MATCH (one day) TOUR MATCH was selective v Australians 20-TOUR MATCH (one day)
Chester le-Street: Durham y Australiers

21-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Chester-le-Street Durham v Worcestershire Carolift Glamogran v Hampshire Gloucester: Gloucestershire v Essax Candift Glamorgan v Hampstere Glaucester: Glaucestershire v Essas. Okt Trafford: Lancashire v Northamptonshire Leicester: Leicestershire v Surrey Trent Bridge: Northrightamshire v Derbyshire Treunton: Somerset v Yorkshire Horsham: Sussex v Kent Edispaeton: Werwickshire v Middlesex 22-TEXACO TROPHY HEADINGLEY; ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA

ffirst one-day internation 24-TEXACO TROPHY THE OVAL: ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA 25-TEXACO TROPHY LORD'S: ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA

(hird one-day maemanular)
AVA LIFE LEAGUE
Chester-le-Sheet Durham v Worcestershie
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Hampaihis
Gloucester: Gloucestershire v Essex
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Northamptonshie
Lalcaster: Lelcastershire v Surrey
Train Bridge: Notinghamshire v Oprbyshire
Taushon: Somerest v Trafchire
Horshem: Suesex v Kerr
Edgbaston: Warwichshire v Middlecas

Cardinal Aust LIETGES CLIP 27-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (Trice days) Bristol or Hove: Gloucestarship or Sussea V Augmisms

Auguranus Surrey v Australiens it both counties in Benson and Hedges quarer-finals)

BESTANNIC ASSUPANCE Bord Essex v Yorkshire Carolfic Gamorgen v Durham Southampton: Hampshire v Warvackshire Leidester: Leidestershire v Landashire Lond's: Middlesser v Northamptonshire Trent Bridge: Nottrighamshire v Keni Wordsmit Wordsmither v Somens Wordsmit Wordsmither days SPERTANNIC ASSURVACE CHAMPIONSHIP 90-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days) The Parks: Oxford University V Susses 31-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (three days) ** Derby: Derbyshee v Australams

JUNE

Headingley: Yorkshim Prostrumen CUP

Harrogate (three days) 10-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP

Northempton or Trent Birdge. Northempton or Trent Birdge. Northempton or Trent Birdge. Northempton-shire or Notinghemshire v Australians (Durtum v Australians il both countes in Benson

and Hedges sent-finals)
12-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

14-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (three days)
Lincester: Legosserstre v Australians
LINIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)

The Parks; Oxford University v Notinghan IS-AXA LIFE LEAGUE Cardiff: Glaucesters/are v Viortestershate Bristot: Glaucesters/are v Viortestershate Basingstotae: Humparine v Kent The Ovet: Surrey v Yout-share House: Susset v Esset Edgbastion: Wannackshare v Darbyshate Edgbaston: Wannackshare v Darbyshate

EUGDESHOTT: WARWICKSTATE V DEEDYSTATE
18-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derbys Derbyshire v Sussex
Derbysgam: Durhern v Kont
Bristot: Goucestanshire v Middlesex

Derfington: Durhem v Kont Bristof: Goucesterchre v Middlesex Liverpool: Lencashire v Giamorgan Northampton: Northamptonshire v Hempshire Trent Bridge: Northamptonshire v Yorkshire Bath; Somened v Leicasterahire Worsester: Wercostershire v Suney

19-SECOND CORNHILL TEST MATCH • LORD'S: ENGLAND Y AUSTRALIA

20-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
• Chelmaford: Essex v Oxford University

23-AVA LEE LEAGUE Derby: Derbyshine v Sussen Derlington: Durham v Kent Bristol: Gloucestershine v Middles

Fanner's: Cambridge University v Duffiam The Perks: Oxford University v Notinghamshire

2-Bril Anni; Assonium 2 orthorism Cardiff: Glamorgan v Middlesen Bristot: Gloucestershire v Worcestershire Besingstoke: Hampehre v Somersel Old Trafford: Lancesture v Fant

Be-NatiWest TROPHY, But round
Beaconsield: Buckinghamshre v Essex
Wisbect: Carribodgeshre v Hampshre
Berrow: Cumbertand v Northemptionshre
Esmouth: Devon v Letossiershre
Carditt; Glamorgan v Bedfordshre
Bristot Gloucastershre v Scotland
Old Trellandt; Luncanshre v Bertishre
Lincoln (Lindum), Lincolnshre v Detoyshre
Lond's: Maddlesser v Kent
Trent Bridge: Northghamshre v Schlondshre
Tauriton: Somersel v Horlondshre
The Oveb Surrey v Durham
Hove: Susser v Stropshre
Edgbeston: Warvidshre v Nortolk
Woodman: Wardishre v Nortolk
Woodman: Wardishre v Nortolk
Headingley: Yorlshre v Indiana
Bertinham Cardishre v Indiana
Sertifham Cardishre V Butter NAVA LIFE LEAGUE

North Faster v Vorlative

Pontypridd: (Semorgen v Durham
Southempton: Hampshire v Wenesdahre
Leidester: Leidestershire v Lancashire
Lord's: Middlessex v Northamptonshire
Trent Bridge: Notinghemshire v Kornt
Wenesdar: Wordestershire v Sortiesse

Repit Annic Assurance Chapmonshi
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Lord's: Middlessex v Leidestershire
Northamptor: Northamptonshire v Southerd, Essex v Destrystive Swenisag Glamorgan v Sussex Luton: Northamptenshire v Gloucestreth The Ovel: Surrey v Northighemshire Wordsster: Wordsstershire v Lancathre Lord's: Micouson value of Northamptonshire v Northampton: Northamptonshire v Northampton: Somercet v Lancoshire The Orat Surrey v Essev Headingley: Yorkshire v Gloucester B-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES ITTOM Southempton: Hampstor: Australia UNIVERSITY MATCHES (Ifree days) S-FIRST CORNING LITEST MATCH SAVA LIFE LEAGUE
Southend: Essex y Derbychne
Swensee: Glamorgan v Sussex
Loicester: Leicestershire v Warwickstwe UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
The Parks: Oxford University v Glamorgan The Parks: Oxford University v Glamorges
8-XXA LIFE LEAGUE
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Scisses.
Turbridge Wells: Karn v Warweckshiro
Lond's: Middlesex v Lacasslershire
Mitton Kaynes; Campbell Parky: Northam
shire v Notlinghamshire
Tauriton: Somense v Lancashire
The Oval: Surrey v Esse.
Headingley: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire
9-COSTCUTTER CUP

Old Trefford: Landashire v Glamorgan Northempton: Northamptonshire v Hampshire Trein Bridge: Nothinghamshire v Yorkshire Bettir: Somersel v Lecsstershire Wordester: Wordestershire v Surray

4-NATWEST TROPHY, list round

PERETAMBLE ASSURANCE CHAMPENSHIP Chester-le-Street; Durhem v Hampsfire Chalmstord: Essex v Somersel Swarnser: Glamorgan v Gloucestesshire Mandstone; Kent v Northemptonshire Leicester: Leicesterstine v Yorkstine Unbridger Middleser v Lancashire Arunder: Susser v Worcesterstine Edgbeston: Werwickshire v Surrey TOUR MATCH (three days)
Trent Bridge: Noticiphameters & Pewstan # UNIVERSITY MATCH (three decs) * OLD TRAFFORD: ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA 5-TOUR MATCH (three days)
• Derby: Derbystme v Pakstan A BAYA LIFE LEAGUE
Chester-te Street Durham v Hempshre
Chelmstord: Essex v Somerset
Swansex. Glamorgan v Glaucestorchire
Maldatona: Kent v Northamptonshre
Leicester: Locestershre v Yorkshre
Unbridge; Middlesex v Lancashre
Linchtsex Sissex v Mangashrehae Artendel: Sussex y Wordesterstore Edgbaston: Warwickstore v Surrey

PATWEST TROPHY, second round
Markov or Chelindond: Buckinghamshire or
Ester v Worcespasher or Holland
Wiebech or Southempton: Cambridgeshire or
Hampehre v Glamorgan or Bedördshire
Bamouth or Limester: Devon or Leicestershire
V Metabor or Innester: Devon or Leicestershire y Yorkshire or keland Lincoln (Lindum) or Derby: Lacolashus or Lincoin (Lincoin) or beingy Lincoinsoit. Or Detroyative of Cumberland or Northamptonshire Understanding or Cantarbury! Middlesex or Kent v Glouestershire or Scotlend The Ovel or Chester-te-Street: Surrey or Durham v Notingramshire or Staffordshire Hove or St Georges (Tellong) Susses or Stroppshire v Lancashire or Berkshire Edgibeston or Lakenham: Warwickhire or Monthile of Competer or Herelandshire TOUR MATCHES
Sheriley: MCC v Palustan A (three days)
Jeamand: Minor Courties v Australians /one

1-80NSON AND HEDGES CUP LORD'S, PINAL Process Parent (1975) 15 and 14/ TOUR MATCH (one carr Edinburgh (Grange CC): Soot and Australians Bonburgh (Grange Cut) 507 315 / Auduran 15-AAA LIFE LEAGUE Derby: Dorbystore v rodenne Chester-te-Street D., mach v Warnistone Southampton: Hampshire v Vorcestering Tent Bridge: Normpharmshire v Schnerce Hove: Sussa v Koutcordenne Imatches involving Bendon and hedged finalists and be placed on July 181 Smales, we be based or July 181 TOUR MATCH rose on, Walsais English Chor et Board 11 - Paristan A 18-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Chelemann Sourcecterary - Demysmal Centerbury, ham a Landesteration Old Trafford, Landesteration - State Northermoon, Northermatischen - State Trent Bridge Northermatischen - State Trent Bridge Northermatischen - State Guildhord, Suma - Innachte Scarborough, Norther - State Tent De Old Linder Scholff Schole Hard.

TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SEFJES ." YES DOVE Cardiff: Giamorgan / Australians
TOUR MATCH (mass days
Worcester Woodshaff to / Paristan A 19-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES .** 146 CT/C * Lord's: Microscopi - Audi 2021; TOUR MATCH Imres cards * Taumore Sometie: 4 Par 2140 A

20-AXA LIFE LEAGUE MAXA UFE LEAGUE
Cheftenham: Grouper attentions - Deflything
Carderbury Kern - La destections
Old Trafford Landaching - Substan
Northampton - Retinantions 16 y 1866a
Trent Bridge: Northamptons 16 y 1866a
Trent Bridge: Northamptons 16 y 1866a
Wortessler Wortestecting - Retinance
Scarborough, Yarishing - Dumbin 22-TOUR MATCH rone bary Cheltenham Goussesses to a Paussen A 23-BRITANNIC ASSUFANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Chesterield Cartystofe Commercial Chesterield Cartystofe Commercial Chesterield Cartystofe Commercial Chesterield Commercial Chesterield Commercial Cartesian Northampton, Hormanoronathe - Sune, Edghaston, Warwarana - Samerus 24-FOURTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH HEADINGLEY ENGLAND VAUSTRALIA TOUR MATCH Hour Bays.

* Hove: Sucsex / Pak stan A

27-AXA LIFE LEAGUE tr-AXA LIFE LEAGUE
Chesterfield Destructe - Significan
Chestershord Robert - Wordestershor
Chestershord Robert - Wordestershor
Chestershord - Barbara - Element
Southampton, Hambarane y Landachele
Leicester Leicestershore y Nottingramstine
Lords Middleser y Kett
Northempton, Homanic promise - Surrey
Edgbaston: Warnachamptonsme - Surrey
Edgbaston: Toolfact

- Surrey

- Surrey 29-NATWEST TROPHY, quarter-finals

TOUR MATCH
Cardiff or Southermplant Gramorgen or Humb-stres y Petutian A (depending on outcome of NatiAest sectord round) 31-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Germannes assorbance characteristic Chesterle Street Durforn / Cetopure Colchester Esser / Lenestership Colony Bay: Glamorgan / Notinghambire Edgbaston: Warwickstre / Susse; Wordster: Wordster: Wordster Verdichter / Fort TOUR MATCH (cre day) Submeat Wales : Palestan A

AUGUST

t-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (four days)

* Taumon: Somersol v Australans

TOUR MATCH (four days)

* Brisiol: Glouresters vie v Paluster: A NATWEST UNDERLIE MATCH S-AXA LIFE LEAGUE Chester le-Street Durham / Derbyshire Colchester Esser v Lincestershire

Colwyn Bey, Glamorgan v Nortrygnerichte Lord's: Middisaer v Suney Edgbaston: Warnebichne v Sustice Worcester, Wordsterfahre v Kert Haadingley: vorschie v Nortramptonshire NATWEST UNDER-19 MATCH
Southempton: England v Zmbabwe S-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Canterbury, Per V Esco.
Blackpool, Landashire / Warenchshee
Lord's, Middlesak / Hempanie
Northampton Northamptonshire /
Visitesterthire
Taurion: Somethis - Gloudesterthire
Taurion: Somethis - Justian
Eastbourne, Sussay / Lendashirae FIFTH CORNHILL YEST MATCH TRENT BRIDGE ENGLAND . AUSTRALIA * TRENT BROIGE, ENGLAND & AUSTRALIA
**TOUR MATCH (four days)
* Headingley, Yorkshill v Pakistan, A
NATAEST UNDER-19 MATCH (four days)
**Edgbasion, England v Zimbabwe (first res),
**BINTERNATIONAL MATCH (first res),
**Dublin (Malande), Irsland v Schilland

* Dublin (Malgrade) Instand / Scioland 10-AXA LIFE LEAGUE Canterbury / Peri / Essa Old Traiford: Lancaches / Warnoches Lord's, Middlesse / Hambourde Northampton Nathampton Nathampton / Wordestranse Taunton, Someone / Glouctdersme The Oval Surrey's Duman Eastbourne: Suspoy / Lengdictone 12-HartWEST TROPHY Pers som Insta

First scrib feat
TOUR MATCH tone day)
Derby or Northampton: Derbyshie or Northampton: Derbyshie or Northamptonshie - Pelusten A
tescending on Resident Trophy
13-MATWEST TROPHY 15-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Berty, Derty, the Vilancianic Christianic Polytics
 Borty, Derty, the Vilancianic Christianic Polytics
 Borty, Derty, the Vilancianic Vilanciani Vila TOUR MATCH Hour days: Chelmsford: Fact-Class Counties Select Al a

Paralan A
WOMEN'S MATCH Bristol England - South Africa (lins: one-day international) 16-TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (three days, * Canterbury, Next y Australier's 17-WOMEN'S MATCH * Taumon, England y South 49-day (second one-day international) 18 or 19-BAIN HOGG TROPHY (one day)

20-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Chaster le Street Dumam : Middlese Abargariny, Glamorgan : Nombengsonshire Leicester: Leicestershire v Derbysnire Worksop: Nominghamshare v Essar Zeinters (Parameter) Taunton: Somerset v hen: Edgbaston: Warwickshiro y Worcostershire WOMEN'S MATCH Lord's: England v South Africa (and one-day intemplional)

21-SOUTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH THE OVAL: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA NATWEST UNDER-18 MATCH (Your day) 24-AXA LIFE LEAGUE Chaster-le-Street: Durham v Modileses

Cristant-e-Sorie Cristant v Nigoricse Cardiff Glarringan v Northarginostric Bristot Gloucesterstine v Lancashine Lalcastor Lecasterstine v Darbyshire Tront Bridge: Notifichamistine v Essex Taunton: Somerset v Nem Worrester; Worcesterstine v Warwickst Wordester, Wordestersine v Werwickstone Scarborough: fortsine v Sussei. 27-ERITANIUC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP Derby: Destyphre v Somersel
Chelmstord: Essex v Wannetchre
Bristok Gloucestersne v Notingham
Portsmouth: Hampchre v Kens
Old Trafficher
Leicester: Leicesterse v Yorkstre
Leicester: Leicesterse v Gen

Northempton: 12: nhamptonches / Sutham Hove: Subson - Sundy (digenomenter: Watces) of Middle 16 s WOMEN'S MATCH Hindkley: England - South Africa (notine) of the color of themes of the color of the co

South Africa South

SEPTEMBER

ABRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIOTSHIP Derby: Set (prive vi horbamporm in ac Chesterle-Street, Dumam vi Vistandiano Contendandiano in Contendandiano Production (Production Production Production Production Production Superior Video (Vistandiano Superior Video (Vistandiano Production Vistandiano Production Vistandiano Production Vistandiano Production Produc 7-AKA LIFE LEAGUE

Derby Dorbyshad - Hoothampton this

Canterbury Ferrily Stopposition in

Old Trafford, Latinophie v Essey Leadester Leadescripton - Professor Trent Biddge, tomorphism the vibrational feather Ser Author Medicine The Oval, Surface - Champings Headingley, for after a Morbest end on B-BAIN HOGG TROPHY one bays

10-BRITANING ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP 10-BRITAINING ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIF Chester-lo-Street, Cumamil, Schroll Carrier, Glomorgian, Essay Southampton, namporare i Success Lord's Hands see, Indianguage Northampton, Locarrisectes, Futch ampition her Locarrisectes, The Oval, Surre, Viunaesthre Edgbasion, Warrendstee, Glouceum, Indianguage Woodestee, Derbyshire, Headingley, Tockstrick, Page 14-AAA UPE LAGUE Chester-le-Street, Connamily Comprise:

Chesterie-Street, Comam v Comatesi Cardiff Glemonder v Eusca Southempton: Hampena, v Section Lord's, Modesse v Fortnornamene Northempton: Hampenanene, v Venezie-Street The Oval, Sure, a Lansachus
The Oval, Sure, a Lansachus
Edgbaston Vizzendomo v Glaucesterenic
Worcester Wordesterenie - Derbychte
Headingley, forzance v Fen.
18-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIE

18-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIF

**Derby Certityrie v fortine
Chemistori Essev v Middlese
**Bristot Groussessense v Lemastare
**Southampion: Harrostine v Worcests)shirc
**Conferbury: Fen: v Suriey
**Leicaster: Leicostertine v Guntam
**Taunton: Someries v Glampigan
**Hove: Susses v Noringhampine
**Edgbaston: Werwickshire v Hornumptor shire
**Edgbaston: Werwickshire v Hornumptor shire match includes Sunday play

Other matches at Lord's

May 4-5, MCC v Wates
June 27 Eton v Harrow
July 15: MCC v MCC Schools
July 16: MCC Schools v National According of Young Crickeless July 17: NCA Young Crickeles: v Combined

Services
Aug 21:22 MCC v Ireland
Aug 27: MCC Trophy (Minor Counties) hast
Aug 29: Abbot Ale chib chemporiship final
Aug 31: Allande & Lecoster Giro Village
championship final

The Times calendar of sport 1997

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Jan 4-6: NFL divisional pls, -off games Jan 12: AFC and NFC championship 9: Jan 26: Super Bowl OCU, New Orleans Apr 12: WLAF season begins. June 21-22: World Bowl 97 Aug 31; new NFL season begins

ARCHERY

Mar 16: National Indoor champianships,

June 7-8: UV. Masters, Litteshali Aug 9-10: Bresh largel championships Lilleshall Dec 7: Junior national indoor championships Riving

ATHLETICS

Jan 4: World Cross Challenge, Bellast Jan 11: Reebak UK CAU cross-country championships, Luton Jan 12: World Cross Challenge, Amorebiela Sozin

Jan 19: World Cross Challenge, Seville Jan 25-26: AAA indoor championships

Feb 1: World Cross Challenge, Tourcomy France, British Universities champion

Feb S: World Cross Challenge, Albuleita. Feb 16: Northern Heland cross-country championships, Lurgan, Reelook English cross-country relay championships, Manchald

Feb 16: Ricoh midder tour, Uevin, France, World Cross Challenge Chibs Japan; Scottish cross-country championiships, Ferth

Feb 22: World Cross Challenge, Narrobi. Feb 23: Ricch indoor tour, Birmingham: World Cross Challenge Dieldrch, Luxembourg Feb 28-Mar 1: United States indoor champion-

Mar 1: English Schools cross-country champloniships. Newark.

er 7-9: World indoor championships. Paris Mar & Rebook English national cross-country championships. Havani, Scottesh Schools cross-country championships, Irvine; Welsh Schools cross-country championships. Llandloes

Mar 9: World Cross Challenge, San Vittore, Mar 17: Grand prix II, Johannesburg.

Mar 26: British police cross-country chambionships, Manchester

Apr 6: Pans Marathon Apr 19-20; World Racewalking Cup, Pregue Apr 20: Rotterdam Marathon. Apr 21: Boston Marathon.

viev 4: Brazil Grand Pro., Pro de Janeiro May 10: Osaka Grand Priz, Osaka, Japai May 25: Pretontaine Classic, Euk

May 29: Grand prix II, Seville May 30: Diputation Grand Prix, Seville May 31: Grand pro. II. San Jose, Grand priz II. Hengelo, Michael Johnson v Donovan Bailey Challenge, Yoronto

June 2: Grand prox II, St Dents, France June 5: Golden Gala, Rome June 8: Znamensky Mamonal, Moscow June 12-15: United States world champion June 15: Grand brix II. Gateshead June 18: Grand pre. II. Helstald

June 21-22: European Cuo, Mursich June 25: Gaz de France Grand Pro., Paris July 2: Athletissima 97. July 4: Bislett Games, Oslo

July 7: DN Galan, Stockholm July 9: Grand prz. II. Linz, Austria July 10-13: European under-23 Cup. Turku July 11-13: English Schools championships.

July 12-14; Great Britain world championships

July 24-27: European junior championships. Lucitana, Stovenia.

Aug 1-10: World championships, Athens. Aug 16: Hercule 97, Monte Carlo Aug 24, Cologne Welfklasse, Cologne Aug 26 or Sept 5: ISTAF 97, Berlin

Sant 28: Radin Marathon Oct 4: Hall marathon world championships.

Sept 3: Grand ont II. Rieti

Nov 2: New York City Marathon Dec 14: European cross-country champion-ships Oeiras, Portugal

BADMINTON

Feb 8-9: National under-16 championships, Tetrord

Feb 21-23: Friends Provident grand slam tournament, Mansheld Feb 28-Mar 2: National under-18 champion-

Mer 10-15: Yoner All England open champran-etios: Burmocham

Mar 27-30: European velorans champion-Mar 30-Apr 8: European lumor champion-ships, Nymburk, Czech Republic Apr 18-20: Friends Provident grand stam tournament, Redbindge May 20-June 1: World championships, Glasgow

BALLROOM DANCING

Jan 8 The Star Bell, London Jan 21-23; UK Open Chempionships Bournemouth. May 23-30; British Open Championships, Blackpool

July 11-13: UK Closed Championships, Sept 20: World Professional Labri Champ

Oct 4: World Amateur Latin Championship. Nov 8: World Amateur Modern Champs Karlsruhe, Germany

20-23: National championships,

BASEBALL

Apr 1: Opening day of Major League season. July 8. All-Star game.

BASKETBALL - "

Jan 19: Men's and women's National Cup

Ancient city must be worthy of modern times

Athens knows that much rides on the success of the world championships,

says David Powell

gnoring the Virgilian maxim about Greeks bearing gifts, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) has put its trust in Athens to stage the 1997 world athletics championships. The world governing body has good reason to expect that the gift from its host, which is waiving the traditional \$7 million IAAF grant, ought not to shatter into tiny pieces.

After the organisational catastroohe of the Olympic Games in Atlanta. Athens must impress in the staging of the sixth world championships if it has to have a chance of winning the vote to host the 2004 Olympics. The decision will be taken only three weeks after the biggest sports event of the year has drawn to a close in the Greek capital. Athens, where the first modern Olympics were held in 1896, felt that the centennial Games should have gone there, but acknowledges now that it relied too much on history and that, to succeed this time, it must meet modern-day demands.

"You can imagine what a promo tion this might be for the Greek Olympic bid if they have a problem-free world championships," Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF secretary, said. Improving on the Atlanta efficiency standard might be about as demanding as asking Michael Johnson to beat the Tenterden Trotters club 200 metres record. but proving as good an athletics meeting will be more difficult.

Atlanta witnessed arguably the greatest track and field show in Olympic history: Johnson's neverbe-forgotten world record and 200/400 metres double: Donovan Bailey's 100 metres world record; the majesty of Marie-José Pérec in the 200 and 400 metres; the sovereignty of Svetlana Masterkova in the 800 and 1,500 metres; a fourth long jump gold medal for Carl Lewis: a profusion of close finishes; the drama of Linford Christie's protest at his disqualitication in the 100 metres, and of Hicham el Guerrouj's fall in the

1,500 metres. Yet, even as Atlanta unfolded, fresh buds were beginning to bloom. One, Daniel Komen, surely will flower in Athens. Komen, 20, narrowly failed to make the Kenya team for Atlanta, but, inspired by watching the Olympics on television, within five weeks he set one of the most extraordinary world records and won the overall men's grand prix title.

Komen took 4.44sec off Noureddine Morceli's 3,000 metres world record. His ambition for 1997 is to win in Athens. "I am the 3,000 metres world record-holder but without having any world championships or Olympic gold medal." Komen said. "I am training for the world championships."

Mar 2: 7UP Trophy final, Birminghem

May 3-4: Budweger Championship Inals.

June 6-15: European woman's Championship finals, Burtapest.

June 24-July 8: European Championship

Apr 24: NBA play-offs begin.

Sept 13-14: new season begins

Oct 18-18: McDonalds chamoion

Mar 17-22: Indian open, Madras

BILLIARDS

Jan 19-23: Open championships, Hyderabad

BOBSLEIGHING

Kontyssee, Germany
Jan 20-Feb 2: World champtonships, S

Feb 9-16. Juner world championships

Feb 19-26; World Cup (seventh round)

Nov 4-9: World Cup (first round), Calgary Nov 25-30: World Cup (second found), Winterberg, Germany

Whiterberg, Germany
Dec 2-7: World Out (third round), Cortins,

Onc 9-14: Vorid Cup (fourth round), La Plagne

Jan 12: Under-25 international match, Wates England Ammanlord

Jan 14-17: CIS Weish Masters and Weish

Feb 8-8: English men's Under-25 singles finals, Notingham

Feb 13: Welsh women's national champ ionship finals Bridgerid

Feb 28-Mar 8: English women's national championships, York

Mar 8: Yetion Trophy trials, New Earsyads, York

Mar 10-14: Men's British Isles Indoor championships and international series, Ballymoney.

Mar 1-2: Denny Cup linals, Darlington

men's angles championship. Llanelli Jan 18: Liberty Trophy quarter-linals.

Feb 8: Liberty Trophy semi-finals.

BOWLS

12-19: European Championships,





One flower denied a vase in Atlanta was Wilson Kipketer, the world's best 800 metres runner who, as a Kenvan-born Dane, was not eligible for the Olympics. although he had won the world title in Gothenburg two years ago. So, with Komen and Kipketer added to the parade of Olympic champions in Athens, we may find championship records being smashed like plates in a Greek metaurant.

Prize-money will be paid for the first time, cash replacing cars.

which have been awarded to winners at the past two world championships. Some \$5 million is in the pot, winners receiving \$60,000, runners-up \$30,000 and bronze medal-winners \$20,000. A bonus, probably \$100,000, will be paid to any athlete setting a world

record. There will be no new events in Athens, with the women's pole vault and hammer scheduled to join the programme in 1999. "The principle is that we want to have a rehearsal at continental level first."

Gyulai said. "In Budapest fat the 1998 European championships). they will have both and we will have both in 1999."

Only half of full prize-money will be paid the first time these events are held, increasing to 75 per cent the second time and 100 per cent in 2003. "We do not want to pay for a less valuable performance, "Gyulai said, noting that it takes time for new events to be fully competitive. The LAAF has two concerns. The biggest problem for Athens is

traffic," Gyulai said. "Traffic is worse than in the rush hour in London." A world championships traffic lane is to be set aside while the IAAF hopes that pollu-

> occasion coincides with a holiday In October, reports from Athens indicated a dispute between the Greek Government and the Greek. athletics federation (Segas), which threatened the smooth running of the championships. Segas, which had signed a contract with the

IAAF to run the championships, withdrew, saying that it had been

Greek-Minister for Sport, Stratos Molivas, the president of Segas, and Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF

marginalised by the state. However, Andreas Fouras, the

Action from the Olympic marathon of 1896, the last time

that Greece hosted a global athletics championship

tion will be reduced because the president, met in November, after which it was announced that "a final agreement was reached ... settling any previous controver-sies". Greece must hope for a controversy-free championships. Its future Olympic bid depends upon it.

Mar 17-20: Women's British Isles indoor championships and international series. Perit. Jan 29: European Championship, sami-final round, England v Portugal, Newcastle Feb 9: NBA All-Star game, Gund Arena.

Mer 21-23: English men's champion of champions singles, Bernbridge Mar 23: Egham Trophy linals, Chambood Apr 5-12: BBA champronships Mello

Apr 13: Liberty Trophy final, Melton Mosbray, Welsh men's national championships limits, Phenatyn Mar 26: European Korac Cup final first leg. European Ronchetti Cup final, first leg Apr 4: European Korac Cup final, second leg. European Ronchetti Cup final, second leg. Apr 18-20; Brash Steel women's world indoor

singles championships Llaneli June 20-23: Women's British Isles cuction championships and international sense.

June 30-July 4: Men's Brosh (ses outdoor championships and interregional sense. Worthing July 20-21: Women's jurior internationals Portrush Aug 4: Johns Trophy, finals, Learnington Spa

Aug 5: Walker Oup, finals, Learnington Spa Aug 6-16: English women's national championships, Learnington Spa Aug 17: National junior singles championship. Wastend Aug 17-29: EEA national champ-onships

Aug 17-Sept 2: Women's Adantic Rim Games Liandrintiod Wells Aug 30. Middleton Cup finals, Vlorthing, Aug 31: English men's inter-club double influ-champion-ships and Under-25 singles, Womang

Sept 13-14: Men's junior riternationshi Llandredod Wells Sept 16-17: National motest lours competition Sept 20-21: National mored pairs competition

BOXING

Feb 3: England Under-19 : United States Feb 17-18: ABA championships, semi-finals Mar 5: ABA championships, linais Apr 12: ABA junior championships, finals Birmingham

May 30-June 9: European junior champior ships, Binningham CANCEING

Nay 2-4: Olympic Regatta, Hazeami el July 19-23: World parior flaturater champion ships, Lahb, Finland Aug 19-24: World flabuster championships Danmoutti, Canada. Aug 30-31: Marathon racing World Cup.

Copenhagen
Sept 22-28: World statem charconnships
Tres Corass, Brazil, European fishirate
championships, Ploydo, Bulgaria Euro
pean infoliater championships, Taren

CRESTA RUN

Jan 18-19: Curzon Cup Jan 19: Harjes Cartier Silver Chip Feb 8-9: Brabazon Trophy Feb 21-22: Cartier Challenge Trophy

CROQUET

May 24-27: Inter-counties champonship June 7-8: Home internationals, Southport.

July 6-13: Open championship. Hurlingham Sept 4-7: President's Cup. Nottingham. Charman's Salver, Compton

CURLING

Feb 16: English and Welsh championships Mar 30: World jurier championships, Japan

CYCLING Jan 12: National circle-cross championships

Feb 1-2: World cyclo-cross championships Mar 16; Essex grand pmt, Halstead Mar 22: Advance Plugs circuit race, Easti May 28: International track meeting. Herne Hill.

Mer 29-31: Girvan stage race. Agr 6: Archer grand prix. Beaconsie Agr 13: Page Roubax. Agr 20: Welwyn-Haffeld grand prix. Apr 26-27: Lands Classic, Hull May 2-5: Tour of Lancashire

May 5: Women's CRA road of Bedford. May 11: Lincoln grand pitc. National ten miles time-trail championstup. Barton-on-Humber May 17-June & Tour of Baly. May 24-25: Tour of the Kingdom, File.

June 1: National 25 miles ameural champ-rorship. Crathome: Division road champlerships. June 8: Pive Valleys road race, Port Telbot. Jane 15: Demaglass Tom Sympson road rac Hansorth

June 20: Marie international road face

Douglas; Women's na championship, Douglas

June 22: Espois rebonal road race champ-tonship, Ownicam; National 50 miles lime-trial championship. Pease Portage. June 29: Open road race championship Abergaverny, National tandem sprint Abergavarny, National is championship, Scurinorpe

going to be the pollution and

July 5-27: Your de France July 12-13: Aberdeenshire Classic, Aberdeel July 13: Men's and women's restonel 100km team time-inst championship, Erster July 18-26: National track championships

Marichester. July 20: National 100 miles gme-trial champ-lonship, Dictoot. July 26-27: Men's and women's 24 hours time-trial championship, Wresham.

July 31-Aug 4; World junior track champion ships Cape Town Aug 3: Tour of the Cotswolds, Gloucester. Aug 10: Arun Cycles grand pro., Portsmouth Aug 16: National Omnium track champ-tonship, Edinburgh.

Aug 17: Leeds International classic, National men's and women's 12-hour time-trial championship, Garsteng. Aug 24: National climat championship, Bury St Editranda Aug 27-31: World track championships, Parth,

Sept 6-28: Tour of Spain. Sept 21: Tour of the Peak, Derbyshire. Sept 28: BCF National time-trial champ-lengths. Report ionateo, Repon Oct 8-8: World Imme-Itiel Champio

Oct 11-12: World road race championships, Oct 26: National hit climb championship, Flowalty, 6ar

DARTS Jan 4-12: Embassy world champion Frimley Green

Sept 13-14: World masters, vibs.
Oct. 2-4: World team championships, Perit. Duc 5-6: World masters, vaba.

DISABLED SPORT

Agr 13; London wheelchair marathon May 2-5; National wheelchair lennts champiorehtps, Shefield. Juny 19-5% European Whoman business champonshipe, Madrid. July 18-38: CP-ISRA world games, Notifrigham. July 19-20; Yhish Garnes, Cardill.

July 21-26: Bresh open wheelchair July 22-Aug 2: Works wheelcheir games, litter Mandmille. July 28-Aug 2: World cup team territs humament, Naturchien. Aug 10-18: European table tennis champion ships, Stockholm

Sept 7-14; Surapean awarening champion-shins Partaloz Soals Sept 18-21: Netional basisthall fourn Signal Attantionals

Sept 19-21: European wheelchair dencing championships, Hanosand, Sweden. Sept 24-28: National junior games, Hull.

DIVING

May 19-16: Grand prix, Moscow. Apr 11-12; European Cup, Belluno, Italy.

Stretter: Stretter i Stretter i Lind Stretter i Stretter i Lind Stretter i Stretter i Lind Str Nov 76: National wanter championships

STEEN BUCSTON May 6-11; Badminton Horse Treats

May 14-18: Windsor Horse Show. May 29-June 1: Mickelmad June 12-16: Brambam Horse Trials. July 10-13: Royal International Horse Sh

Aug 14-17: Hickstead Derby. Sept 4-7: Blenham three-day event-Sept 11-14: Burghley Horse Trials Sept 24-28: Horse of the Year Shoe

Dec 18-22: Olympia Christmas Warrbley. FENCING

Jan 25: British youth championships (foli); Corbie Cup Feb 8: British youth championships (sabre and 806e) Mar 11-13: Public schools championships

Mer 15: British sabre championships. Mer 25-31: World junior and cadet champion thips, Tenaria. Apr. 28: British intermediate foll

May 10; British foil champlonships. May 24; British men's épée open. July 12-19: World championships, Cape Town.

STATE SAME AND

Water.

Well and the service of the June 7-8: NESA-ciulo boat ma diampleratipe. Littlehamotori. Jung 9-10: Embessy-Challenge course Brei.

June 18-20: Women's home by international, Lough Melvin. June 28-29: World coarse chemplonships, Hungary. Turgary.

July St. Fifth division national coame championships, Basingstoke

Luty 14-20; Benson and Hedges Soutend by Inel. Loch Leven.

July 19: Fourth division national coarea championstaps, Middle Trant. July 24-26: Benson and Hedges England by final, Rulland Water.

Aug 9: Women's netional coarse champion-shipe, Willow Park. Aug 16: First division retional coerse championships, Stainforth-Keedby Canal Aug 25-31: World Junior beach see the ships, Dispps.

sept 2-9: World by championships, Shake River United States Sept 9: Third division national coarse championships, Shropshire Canal.

crearguorsmys, shropshife Canes.
Sept 9-10: Beneon and Hedges International fy final, Rutland Weter.
Sept 20: Second division national coasse chemplonships, Cambridge and Great Cues.

Sept 28-29: Home international whore sea champlonships, Abersaron, Wates. Oct 11-19: World alters see champlonatips, Dec: World big game championships, Kenye

Jan 4: FA Cup, third round. Jan 17-22: US Cup (between United States, Mexico, Paru and Denmark), Pesadene and Sen Diego. Jan 22: International metch, Italy v Northern Ireland, Palermo

Jan 25: FA Cup, Jouth round.
Feb 11: World Cup qualitying, European zone, group 4, Estona v Sootland, in Monsoo.
Feb 12: World Cup qualitying, European zone, group 2, England v Italy, Wennbley. Feb 15: FA Cup, fifth round.

Feb 19: Coca-Cole Cup, semi-finals, first legs. Mar 8: FA Cup, quarter-finals. Mar 12: Coca-Cola Cup, semi-finals, ascond

Mer 12: Coca-Cola Cup, semi-finals, escondings.

Mer 29: World Cup qualitying, European zone, group four. Scotland v Estonia, Hempolen Park, Group seven, Walse v Berjum, Cardilf, Group nine, Northern Ireland v Portugal, Ballista.

Apr 2: World Cup qualitying, European zone, group four, Scotland v Austra, Hempolen Park; Group eight, Mecadonia v Ireland; Group nine, Ukraine v Northern Ireland.

Apr & Coca-Cola Qup, final, Wembley Apr 12: Tennents Scottish Cup, serr Apr 13: FA Cup, semi-finals.

Wembley.

Wembley.

Proposition of Cop qualitying, Europeen zone, group hiro, England v Georgie, Wembley; group tour, Sweden v Scotland; group teght, Fomeria v Irriend, group nine, Armenia v Northern telenid.

Continued on page 27

فكذا من الأصل

The Times calendar of sport 1997

Valderrama ready to stage golden Ryder Cup

John Hopkins on

the history behind

the course hosting golf's premier event

n September the eyes of golfers will turn towards southwest Spain, to Valderrama, one of two golf courses on the Sotogrande estate a few miles east of the Rock of Gibraltar. The course is well known.

Sotogrande is the home of many expatriates and has the first golf course in Europe to be designed by Robert Trent Jones. In addition, Valderrama has hosted the Volvo Masters for the past eight years. It will be under scrutiny in eight months' time because it is staging the Ryder

The story of Valderrama began more than 30 years ago when Alfredo Melian crisscrossed southern Spain on a motorbike searching for land-near an airport with enough space for its own landing strip. and water supply.

Melian's search was being conducted on behalf of Colonel Joseph McMicking, an American of Scottish descent, who had lived in the Philippines where his grandfather built the municipal system and later, McMicking himself would build a satellite city.

McMicking liked to say: " am Scotch - with lots of water." After starting an electrical firm with 27 employees and seeing it develop into an industrial giant, he began to think of building a resort in southern Spain.

At last Melian found what he was looking for - five farms, known as Sotogrande. in the middle of a tract of land

THE WORLD OF GOLF IN 1997 September 25-28: Valdemarna, Spain April 10-13: US Masters, Augusta June 12-15: US Open, Congressional, Setheads, Maryland July 17-20: Open Championship, Royal Troon August 14-17: US PGA Championship, Winged Foot, New York

19 kilometres from Gibraltar airport with a frontage to the supply - and McMicking and some friends purchased it.

We bought the land at
Sotogrande without having
seen it, like a pig in a poke.

McMicking said. "We paid

\$750,000 and had to pay another one-third in six

We took a three-quarters of a million dollars gamble but we were OK. We finally managed

Soon bulldozers were brought in to thin out the cork trees. Trent Jones was recruited to design a golf course, Sotogrande Old, which cost \$500,000 and was the first course in Europe to have automatic sprinklers — 472 of them serviced by 100 miles of underground cable.

There was a comfortable notel with guest cottages, and termis, croquet, polo and beach clubs, as well as a riding club at one of the original farms. Masterminded by a formidable lady, who had

previously turned the Ritz Hotel in Madrid into a worldclass hotel, the resort quickly became established.

Feb 6-9:

Mar 6-9:

Mar 13-16;

Mar 27-30:

Apr 17-20:

Apr 24-27:

May 15-18:

Jun 19-22:

Jun 26-29:

Jul 10-12:

Jul 31-Aug 3

Aug 14-17:

Aug 21-24:

Aug 28-31:

Sept 11-14: Sept 16-21:

Oct 9-12:

Feb 13-16:

And there Sologrande might have stayed had it not been for the entry of Jaime Ortiz Patiño, a grandson of Simon Patino, the fabulously wealthy Bolivian tin magnate. In 1975 another course, known as Las

and when that same up for sale ne rounded up some friends and they bought it That did not is a long. "Jimmy

EUROPEAN TOUR

Johnnie Walker Classic mode island. Queensland, Australia

Benson and Peoples International Open, The Oxfordehire, Thame

Siziey Hallflortumberand Challenge Siziey hall, Hexham

Murphy's inshicpen Did as Gien, County Wicklow

BMW International Open Canon European Masters Chans-sur-Siene, Switzerland

Toyota World Match Play championship, Wentworth

Loch Lomand Widne in Manchal, Loch Lomond

Allred Dunhit South Amount FBA championship, Houghton, Johannesburg

Jan 30-Feb 2: Hemeken Classic The Vines Perin, Australia

Moreccan Open Facs'

Madeira Island Coen

Peugeot Sparish Obe

Alamo Engist Caes.

Valvo German Ocea

Sun Dutch Osen

To be announced

Paugeot Franch Coar Fans

Volvo Spandineman Masters

One 2 One British Masters

* Affred Dunnis Cop., St. Andrews

To be scheduled: Air France Cannes Open, Open Novotel Petrier

Lince Serman Maxters

Oct 30-Nov 2: Volvo Masters, Marrecestillo, Spain

Cki Pro-Am

Catalan Open; Austrian Open

epproved special event.

Chemapol Trophy Szech Open

Smurft European Opan, N. G.Jp. Dublin

Lancôme Trodny, Stillom-a-Bretecha, Paris

Sarazen World Coen, Chateau Elan, Atlanta

Ares, also designed by Trent Jones, opened at Subgrande

on land to the north of the Old

As the Old course became

basier. Patific found himself

playing more golf at Las Aves

* World Cup of Golf, reasiah Island, South Carolina

To be announced

Portuguese Open Listor

Turespana Masters Mastalamas

: Deutsche Eank Oben-TFC of Europe

South African Open, Lohernesburg Dimension Data, Sun Day, South Africa

Dubai Desert Classic Emirates Club, Dubai

National Golf Club in Geor-

May 5: Brash towing per championship.
Thruston

course Valderrama.

likes to chair committees of

old numbers and he thinks

three is too many," a friend

said. In 1986 Patino bought out

his friends and renamed the

much of an obsession to Patiño

Valderrama has become as

as Xanadu was to Charles Foster Kane, Only Augusta how well he has succeeded.

gia, site of the US Masters, receives as much affention as Valderrania. There is informed speculation that Patiño spends several million pounds of his own money on the course unnually and if that is maccurate it is because it is

He reassured members que rying the expense of a tunnel under the driving range by saying: "Don't worry. This may be a runnel but it's not like the Channel Tunnel. There is no shortage of money

Patino sold his collection of

'It is suggested Patiño spends several million pounds on the course annually

Impressionist paintings for nearly £40 million a few years ago. He talks of having one golden rule: "I have the gold. I make the rule." He has a Ming vase in the hall of one of his houses, two bith century silver palace in Berlin in a bedroom and cutier; that once belonged to Catherine the Great on his dinner table.

In his pursuit of excellence he has learned as much about grass and greens as anyone in Europe, No other European sits on the greens committee of the US Golf Association. "It is a big challenge to watch grass grow in the right way. I can win that battle. I cannot hit the ball and get it into the hole but I bloody well can get the pos grass out of the green." This September we will see

Continued from page 26

May 3: Host day of Nationwide Langue. May 4; LIK Living Women's FA Cup, Snel. May 7: Hele Cup, final, Spit leg.

May 11: Nationwide Lacque divisions play-ons, semi-linate, that togs. May 14: Nationwide Lacque divisions play-offs, semi-linate, accord legs; European Cup Winners' Cup, final, Rollendem;

May 18: FA Umbro Trophy, final, Wembley. May 21: Lieta Cup, final, second leg: May 24: Nationwide Legus third division play-olis, final, Wernbley: Tarmenta Scottish Cup, final.

May 25: Nationalde League second division play-oils, final, Wentblay.

May 28: Nationwide League first division play-offs, finel, Wembley. May 28: European Cup, final, Olympic Stretum Munich May 31: World Cup qualifying, European zone, group two, Poland v England.

June 3: Four-team tournament, France Brazil, Lyone: June 4: Four-seem tournement, Italy England, Namies

June 7: Four-team tournement, Frence v England, Montpellier World Cup quality-ing, European zone, group eight, freiand v Liechtenstein, Dublin. June 6: Four-team tournement, kniy v Brazil, Lyona; World Cup qualifying, European zone, group four, Belarus v Scotland.

June 10: Four-team tournament, England v Brazil, Lens.

Brazi, Lens.
June 11: Four-team toomament, France v
hely, Perc des Princes, Peris.
Aug 9; start of FA Carang Premiership 199798; start of Nationwide League 1997-98. Aug 13: European Cup Champions' League, preliminary round, first legs; Unita Cup preliminary round, first legs.

preiminary round, hist legs.

Aug 20: World Cup qualitying, European zone, group seven, Turkey v Wales, Group eight, ireland v Lihuanar, Group nae, Northam Ireland v Germany.

Aug 27: European Cup Champions' League, preiminary round, second legs. Usta Cup preiminary round, second legs.

Sept 6: World Cup qualifying, European zone, group four, Scotland v Belarus, Hampder Park; Group eight, Iceland v Iseland.

Sept 10: World Cup qualifying. Europeat zone, group two, England v Motolows Wernblay: Group leight, Liftusata v keland Group nine, Albanta v Northern Ireland. Sept 17: European Cup Winners Cup, first round, inst legs; Uefa Cup, first round, first legs. First round of group maches of European Cup Champions' Leegue.

Oct 1: European Cup Winners' Cup, Brat round, second legs; Uefa Cup, first round, second legs second legs
Out 11: World Cup qualifying, European zone,
group four, Scolland v Latvia, Hampden
Park, Group eight, Ireland v Romenia,
Dublin; Group nine, Portugal v Northern

Nov 11: World Cup qualifying, Europeen zone. group two, fizily v England; Group seven, Belgium v Wales

- GUNCA

May 17-25: British overs championships, Le Blanc, France June 7-15: 15m class British national championships, Syerston. June 30-July 12: World championships, St Auban, France.

July 5-13: Open class British national championships, Enstone

July 25-Aug 3: 18m class British champ-lorship, Thenham; Club class champ-ionship, Husbands Bosworth. Aug 8-22: European junior championships, Mushach, Germany

Aug 9-17: Standard class British national chemoconships, Lasham.

Aug 25-Sept 1: British national junior chemoconships, Biddord

GOLF

المراجع في المنطق المستون المس

Jan 23-26: Johnnie Walker Classic, Hope Istand, Queensland, Jan 30-Feb 2: Heinsken Classic, The Vines,

Feb 6-8: South Alticen Open, Glandower Country Club, Johannesburg. Feb 13-16: Dimension Date, Sun City. South Feb 20-29: Altred Dunhill South African PGA championship, Houghton, Johannesbut Feb 27-Mer 2: Dubai Desert Classic, Emiral

Mar 8-8: Moroccan Open, Royal Dar es Selem, -] Rebat

May 8-14: Corte of Florence Italian Open.
May 8-14: Berison and Hedges Internatio
Open, The Oxfordahirs.

May 9-11: Turkish Seniors Coon, Antaka May 15-18: Irish Seniors Open, St Margeret's, Dublin.

May 28-28: Volva PGA chempionship. May 29-June 1: Decisione Bank Open-TPC of

June 5-8: Slaley Hell Northumberland Chell-engs, Slatey Hell, Hednam. June 6-8: Jersey Seniors Open, Le Moye. June 12-15: US Open, Congressional, Se-theods, Maryland. June 13-15: De Vere Saniors Classic, Batton Woods, Lincoinshire. Juna 19-22: Volvo German Open.

June 20-22: Ryder Cottingtree Seniors Classic. Collingtree Park. June 26-29: Psugeot French Open, Paris. June 27-29: Swedish Seniors Classic, vibs. July 3-5: Lawrence Bettey Seniors, Huddersfield July 3-6: Murphy's Irish Open, Druids Glen, Co

July 10-12: Loch Lornand World Invitational July 11-13: Senior German Open, Identin, July 13-14: Open championamp, snal quelly-ing, Glesgow Galles, Irvine, Kilmamock, Word Till

July 17-20: Open championship, Royal Troon. July 24-27: Sun Duich Open; Senior British Open, Royal Pomush. July 31-Aug 3: Volvo Scandinavien Mas

Aug 6-8: British seniors chempion wood Forest and Cosmoor.

Aug 8-10: Credit Suisse Seniors Open, Bud Regez, Switzerland. Aug 11-18: Butter boys chemistonehip, Seunton Aug 14-17: US PGA Championship, Winged Foot Memaronek New York Aug 21-24: Smurit European Open, The K Club, Dublin.

Aug 22-25: Belliny PGA Seniors Championship, The Belliny, Sutton Coldield. Aug 28-31: BMW International Open. Sept 4-7: Canon European Masters, Crare-

Sect 5-7: Scottish Seniors Open, Newmecher Sept 11-14: Lancôme Trophy, SI-Nom-la

Sept 18-21: One 2 One Shipsh Masters Sept 19-21: Ozech Senkus Open, Marienske Lezne, Ozech Republic, Seot 26-28; Ryder Cup, Valderrame, Spain. Oct 2-6: Linda Garman Minsters.

Oct 9-12: Toyota World Masch Play champ kanning, Warmouth. Oct 16-19: Alfred Duning Cup, St Andrews Oct 17-19: Player Championship. The Buckinghamshire, Denham.

Ora 23-26: Oki Pro-Am. Oct 30-Nov 2: Volvo Mesters, Monteca Nov. 6-9: Serazen World Open, Chateau Elan,

Nov 20-23: World Cup of Golf, Kiemah Istand,

Jan 9-12: LPGA: Chrysler-Plymouth tour-nament of champions, Fort Lauderdale. Jan 17-19: LPGA: Hashinsouth insugural Feb 6-8; LPGA Paim Beach national pro-am, West Palm Beach, Florida. Feb. 13-16: LPGA Los Angeles women's championship. Glendale, California. championship, Giandale, California. Feb 20-22: LPGA Cup Noodies Haweilan

Mar 13-16: LPGA Welch's/Circle K championship, Tucson. Mer 20-23: LPGA Standard Register Ping. Phoenix.
Mar 27-30; LPGA Nabisco Dinah Shora,
Mission Hals, California.

Apr 3-6: Twelve Bridges LPGA Classic, Lincoln, Castornia. Apr 17-20: Myrtie Beach LPGA Classic Munelle Intet, South Carolina. Murelle Intel South Carolina.

Apr 25-27: LPGA Chick-o-fi A charity champjonship, Stockbridge, Georgie.

Man 1-4-1 p.CA May 1-4: LPGA Sprint Titleholders champ-lonship. Daytons Beach, Plorida. May 8-11: Estorii Open.

May 9-11: LPGA Sara Lee Classic, Old Hickory, Tennessee. May 15-18: Tour Players' Cleasic, The Tytherington, Macclesseid; McConside LPGA charmonatin. Wilmington Puls

May 29-June 1: Polish Open, Amber Batto, Miorizyzdrofe; LPGA Heeritand Classic, St Louis, Missouri.

June 5-8: LPGA Oldemobile Cleenic, Essi Uneing, Michigen. June 8-8: Ford-Stimarol Denleh Open, Vejle. June 19-15: Deesse Swiss Open, Leusanns. June 13-15: Edine Reighy LPGA Classed Maple Grove, Minnesota.

June 18-21; Evlan Masters, Evlan, France. June 19-22: LPGA Rochester International, Pitsford, New York.

June 25-29; Hernessy Cup, Cologne. June 27-29; ShopRite LPGA Classic, Somera Point, New Jersey. July 3-8: Austrian Open, vibe; LPGA Jemie Fair Kroger Classic, Sylvania, Offic. July 10-13: US Women's Open, Pumpkin Ridge, Oregon.

July 17-20: LPGA JAL Big Apple Classic, New July 24-27: German Open, Traudelberg,

July 25-27: Glant Engle LPGA Classic, Warren, Ohio. July 31-Aug 3: Du Maurier Classic, Gien Abbey, Toronso.

Aug. 7-10: McDonaid's WPGA champlonship of Europa, Glanacites; LPGA Friendly's Classic, Agewam, Messachusetts. Aug. 14-17: Weetabix Woman's British Open, Sunningdale.

Aug 21-24: Compaq Open, Osternivers Aug 22-24: Ster Bank LPGA Classic Aug 30-Sept 1: State Farm Rail Classic Springfield, Ninols.

Sept 4-7: French Open, Paris Sept 5-7: Seleway LPGA championship, Portland, Oregon. Sept 11-14: English Open, viba: LPGA Salaco Classic, Kant, Washington.

Sept 18-21: Guardien Irish Open, vibe; LPGA Ping Welch's championship, Canton, Massachusetts. Sept 25-28: Turkish Open, Antalya; LPGA Fieldcrest Cannon Classic, Charlotte, North Cartains. Oct 2-5: Women's World Match Play champ-lonehip, viba; LPGA CoreStates Betsy King Classic, Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

Oct 9-12: Sameung world championship, v/bc Oct 24-26: Air France Open de Deauville. Noy 7-9: Toray Japan Queens' Cup, Japan Nov 20-23: ITT LPGA Tour championship, Las Dec 4-7: LPGA JC Penney Classic, Tarpor

Dec 12-14: Diners Club matches, vtbc. Dec 20-21: Wendy's three-tour challenge, Henderson, Nevada.

Jan 9-12: President's Putter, Rye

Apr 28-27: Helen Holm women's tournament Royal Troon. May 3-4: Lytham Trophy, Royal Lytham and St Annes; Berkshire Trophy, The Berkshire. May 10-11: England v Spath, La Manga. May 18-18: Brabazon Trophy, Saunion May 18-20: Welsh women's championship

May 20-24: English women's championship, Saunton, Irlah women's championship, Emiliserone, Scottish women's champ-jorship, West Kilbride. 24-25: St Andrews Links Trophy, S

May 28-29: Lagonda Trophy, Gog Magog June 2-7: British championship, Royal St. George's and Royal Cinque Ports.

July 28-27: Vegliano Trophy, Halmstad July 28-Aug 2: English chempionship, Royal (Averpoot; Scottlish chempionship, Cam-July 29-Aug 2: Weish chempionship, Pyle & Aug 5-8: British girls' championship. Royal Aug 6-8: British seniors championships, Shewood Forest and Commoor.

Aug 9-10: Walter Cup, Quaker Ridge, New

Aug 9-15: Irish chempionship, Westport.

Aug 12-14; Girla' home internationals. Royal Aug 13-17: British Mid-Amateur champ-

Aug 21-23;

Blemhern and Blems Women's home internationals, Lahmoh Sept 30-Oct 2: Senior British women's chempionetrip, Fritiard Heath.

GYMNASTICS Mar 14-16: Interreponal tournament, Cottous

Mar 18: BUSA Championships, Lifeshall, r 22-23; Grand pro. Pans; Brown mythmi chemplonships, Bletchley 19-20: British women's team

Apr 26-27: European rhythmic mesters. Pans May 4: British rhythroic team championships Burton-on-Trent May 9-11: British women's servor and junior championships, Guildford.

May 29-30; World sports sarobids champion ships, Perth, Australia. June 7: Weish Open, Cardill. June 24-30: Europeen sports acrobatics championships, Germany

Sept 1-7: World championships, Lausanne Sept 18-21: World aports acrobatics championships, Manchester Oct 22-25: World thythmic championships, Nev 8-9: British men's championship.

HANDBALL May 17-25; World championships, preimmar,

May 27-June 1: World championships, play-May 31: World championships, semi-knals June 1: World championships, final

HOCKEY

Jan 17-18: European nellone indoor cup Jan 24-26: Women's European Under-21 nations cup. Caska Budevica, Czech Republic

7: Indoor club chempionships lineis Mer 4-15: World Cup qualifying tournament, Kuata Lumpur Mer 16-23: Golden Jublee tournam

home countries tournaments, Dublin Apr 13: HA Cup semi-finals May 11: HA Irrais day, Milton Keynes.

Aug 1-12 England women's World Cup Sept 17-28: Under-21 World Cup, Million Oct 9-19: Champions Trophy, Adelaide

Oct 15-25: Women's Under-21 World Cup Now 15-23: Women's five nations tournamen

ICE HOCKEY Japan, Blackburn. Mar 1-2: Superleague play-offs

Mar 15-16: Superleague play-offs.

ICE SKATING

Mar 22: Superleague semi-finals, Mancheste

Mar 29: Superleague final, Marichester.

Jan 3-4: Brigsh short track championships Jan 10-12: European speed championships. Heerenveen, Holland Jan 18-19: European short track champion-shaps, Malmo, Sweden.

Jan 19-26: European ligure championships.

Fab 1-2: World sprint championships, Hama Norway. Feb 14-18: World speed championships, Feb 28-Mar 2, internations Evaling union Squae international faces intervals Mar 18-23: Word tiple that course

May 28-30: World short had consmolers for

Feb 1: Bulgarian A tournament (Spf s. Feb 7-9: Parts A fourt attach Feb 22-23: German A fournament Munici Mar 1-2; Hunganah Altournament, Budscest

Mar 8-9: Prague Aircumement. Mar 15/16: Foish 4 tournament, Walcast Mar 22-23: Pahan 4 tourcastert, Roma. Apr. 5-8: Durch 4 (cumament 3 Heno-

5: Broom Open championenes. May 8-11: European champions not Crisinal Oct 9-12: World championship: Fant Oct 18-19: Eurobean Neam international rich

Nov_13-18: European junior priamo champa Dec 6. Sarte A fournament Basie

KORFBALL

Jan 4-5: European cub championensis. Barcelona Jan 31-Feb 1: Under-28 (burnamen) Aces

Feb 28-Mar 2: European student champions ships, Unechni Holland Mar 2: National Region planning
Mar 9-9: BUSA premo prainip: Highingham Mar 16: National leadus d'avicos

Mar 22: National league tidats. Directal Parade Apr 12: Under 23 of to promote sharps of the Apr 19: Senior Under-12 Under-16 cup their Crystal Palace July 26-27: British county chambles in a Belinburgh

LACROSSE

Feb 2 and 9: Carr. Telegraph Flags come.

Feb. 22-23 Women's service temporar chambionations (Verjonage Mar 1: Verbonan's junite internationals Mar 7-9. Nomen's transport interchenal loumancent Easterny. Mar 22-23: Women's class and colleges tournament Copram Apr 8: Datly Telegraph Flog. Scil. Dissour.

Apr 25-May 5: Women's word Cut Torys May 25. 10012 5 C.D July 21-27: Men's and home's European Dec 6. Women's counties or amplionation

Jan 16-19: World Dubi La Pietrie, France Jan 22-25, Withou Cut. Althornay German,

MOTORCYCLING

Jan 12: National or buyoness chamble richos Apr 13: Malaytian Grand Fin. Chah etem Apr S0: Japanese Grand Pro Sugura May 4. Spanish Grend Fra. Jerez May 18: dation Grand Pro Misselfs June 1: Augman Grand Pris EARLAST June 15, French Grand Flux, Cartelet July 6: Impla Grand Fr. 1714 July 20: German Grand Pro Michigans Aug 3: to be confirmed. Ordress: Augentine of Brazilian Grand Prix

Oct 12: Australian Grand Pro. Philip Island MOTOR RACING

Aug 17: British Grand Prix Donington Park

Sept 14: Carsiana Grand Frie Barcelona

Sept 28: Indanesian Grand Pro. Sentui

Aug 31. Crech Grand Fr. Emp

Mar 9: Australian Grand Pru, Melbourne. Mar 30; Brazilian Grand Phy. Menagos, Sao Mar 31: Binish touring car champistratic

Apr 13, Argenime Grand Prot, Buenus Area

Apr. 20. Emish source car anampionship. Silverstock Apr 27, San Manne Grand Prof. Impla

May 11: Monuco Grand Prix, Monte Carlo May 25: Spanish Grand Priv. Barcelona.

May 28: British Youring car championship. Culton Paik June 14-15: Le Mans 24-hour race

June 15, Canadian Grand Prb. Montreal Brish touring car championship Donardic Part

July 13: British Grand Prin, Scherstone. July 27: German Grand Pro-Hackenhern Aug 3: British Issuing car championship, knocknik

Aug 10: Hungaria: Grand Frix Budapest Brigh fouring sai diampionalip. Snomenor. Aug 24. Beige Francokonamps Beigian Grand Pro. Spa-

Aug 25: Emish tokning car championship. Trivision Sept 7: Iteran Grand Pro., Monza, British toward car championship, Brands Halch Sept 21; Austrian Grand Pru. Zeltweg. British touring car championalitie, Silversione

Sept 28: interrooms Grand Print Hurburghing, Germany Oct 12, Japanese Grand Pro, Suzuka Oct 26: Portuguesa Grand Priz, Estoril No. 2: RAC Jeteran Car Puri London to

MOTOR RALLYING

Jan 18-23: Morse Carlo rally, Monaco Feb 7-10: International Swedish rally Haristad May 2-5: Ken, a Salari fally Transbe Mar 22-27: Rail; of Fortugal, Figures de Foo Apr 13-16: Raff, of Spain, Libret de Mar Apr 26-27: Firelly International Rafty May 4-8; Rath, of France, Autorio, Corside May 20-24 Rally of Argentina, Cordoba June 6-7. Scotlist: International Bally June 6-10: Adresons Field Athens Aug 1-3, Stena Line Ulster Rally Aug 20-25, 1 000 Lairs Raily Javashila Sept 11-13; Man- International Path

Nov 21-24, RAC Pally Great Embin, Chesiel NETBALL

Oct 11-15 San Remoralt, Ital;

Jan 25, international match. Wates v England Feb & international match, England Vilreland, Mar 1-2: FEIN- Under-21 tournament, Maka Mar &: National Johnals final Sussez-Mar 221 memotional motch, Northern Ireland .

Apr 26-May 16: England July of South Africa July 5-6. Horica of junior championships DRIENTEERING

Apr 26. Lenonal youth championships

Feb 23: Bhilish night championships, East Apr 27, Enlish championships July 10-13 World policy championships

Aug 11-16: World championships: Grimstad Nov 16. British schools championchies

Feb 22-23: Enlish modern letrathlon

PENTATHLON

Apr 19-20: Braish modern junior and youth pontarhica championships. East Grin-stead May 10-11: Breish modern traithfon champlon-ships, Aliton Feynes July 5-6: British modern ben Nov 2: British schools braithon champion-

Nov 29-30: Braish modern brathlon champion-

srups, Cheskin Hay

ships, vibc

POLO

May 9-25: Prince of Wales Trophy, Royal

May 13-June 1; Raval Whespir Cup, Guards May 20-June 1: Viterinolistate Gup, Createster

May 24-26; Waterloo Cupi Ascol. June 3-8: Dollar Cup, Courtie, Park June 3-22: Direch's Cub. Guards June 15: University match. Cylord v Cam-bridge, Cambridge

June 17-July 8; Eduardo Moore Journa Poyat Berkshire June 20: /oung England international, John June 21-28: Prince of Wales Cup, Beaution July 2-20, verve Circquot Gold Cup. British open Condray Park

July 27 Cartist International Day Guards.

POWERBOATING United Kingdom Olishure Boating Association May 4: Spithead Troofiy Gooper June 8: Dolphin GF Gospon June 29: Clesthoraes GF

July 13: Essibourne GR Aug 2-3; Falmouth Gr Sept 21: Eournemouth GP Inland circuit UIM Formula One May 4: .103

May 25: Dunauvaros, Hungary June 22: Chalde. July 20: Salapoli Aug 3. Cambiona Sept 28 Meinam

Nov 28° √ba

Dec 12 Abu Dhabi

RACING Jan 11: Actor Chandles Chase, Ascol The

Jan 19: AIG Europs Insh Champion Huiute. Esoparations
Feb 8: The Bold Trophy Newbury

Mar 11 Chederitam Mar 12 Gissen Mother Champion Chare, Chefenham Mar 13: True Chettenham Gold Cup. Chettenham

Mar 22: Tota Lincoln, Denouses Mar 29: Dubai Along Cup Tlad Al Shoba Mar 31. Jameson insh National Fair, two 55 Apr 5 Market Grand National Autom-

Apr 16 TIGH Spark Plugs Europain Fre-Handcop Memmarkat Apr 17 Craign Stalus, Hewmarks

Apr 19, State Casinos Scotlich National Ayr Tripleprint Greenham States, New dry Apr 22-24: Punchestown Fusingly Apr 25: Sandown Mile Sandown Apr 26: Whitbread Gold Cub. Sand will May 31 Periomps 2 000 Guineus, Normarker: Fichierly, Earthy, Churchyl Downs

May 14, Homeowners Danie Stakes (1994)

May 25. Lexus Ireland inship 2 000 Guineas. The Corragh June 1: French Derby (Ph. du Jockey Club).

June 7: Vodations Derby Epsom Vodature Coronation Cup Epsom, Belmont Stakes, Belmunt Park, New York June 17: Si James's Palace Stakes, Rayat

June 19: Gold Cop. Royal Ascni. June 20: King's Stand Steires, Poval Ascor June 28" Newcastle Brown Ale" Northumber-land Piate, Newcastle

Continued on page 28

Feb 22: Railing Poul Churce, Kempton Mer 11: Smunit Champon Huidle.

Apr 15 Hell Gwyn Stakes Newmarket

Apr 18: Dunai Duly Free Fred Digrung \$13465.

May 4: Perferros 1 000 Suneas, Newmarket

May 7. Tota Chester Cup. Choster May 11: French 2 000 Guineas (Poule d'Erda-ces Poulairis), Lordzhamp French 1 000 Guineau (Poule d'Essai des Poulicher) Lorgzhamp

May 17 Prealiness States, Pimilios Juddmonte Lucyinge Stakes, Newholy. May 24. Airlie Coolmore Inch 1,000 Gumeas

Chantelly, June 6: Jodalone Oaks, Epsom

June 18: Coronation Stakes, Royal Ascot

The Times calendar of sport 1997

Continued from page 27

June 29: Budweiser Insh Derby The Curragh July 9: TNT International Aviation July Stakes

July 10: Darley July Cup, Newmarket July 13: kuldangan Insh Oaks, The Curragh July 28: king George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stahas, Ascot

July 28-Aug 2: Galway Festival July 29: William Hill Cup Handicap, Goodwood July 30: Sussex States Goodwood July 31: Schweppes Golden Mile, Goodwood.

Aug 1: Jockey Club of Kenya Molecomb Stakes Goodwood Aug ≥ Vodac Stewards' Cup, Goodwood Aug 10: Heinz 57 Stakes, Leopardstown Aug 19: Juddmonte International Stakes, York Aug 20: Tote Ebor Handicap, York, Aug 21: Nuntharpe Stakes York

Aug 23: Tripleprint Celebration Goodwood Sept 6: Sprint Cup. Haydock Sept 7: Movglare Stud Stakes The Curragh. Sept 10: Tota-Portland Handicap, Doncaste Sept 11: East Coast Donossler Cup.

Sept 18: Laurent-Pamer Champagne Slakes, Sept 13: Periemos St Legar, Doncaster

Sept 20: Ladoroke Avr. Gold Cup Avr. BosusPrint Mill Reel Stakes, Newbury, Insh St Leger, The Curregh Sept 27: Gueen Elizabeth II, Stakes Ascot Sept 28: Fillies' Mile. Ascol. Sept 30: Shadwall Stud Cheveley Park Stakes

Oct 2: Middle Park Stakes, Newmarket. Oct 4: Tole Cambridgesture, Newmarket Oct 5: Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Longchamp Oct 17: Dewhurst Stakes, Newmarke Oct 18: Dubai Champion Stekes, Total Cesarewiich, Newmarkst.

Oct 25; Recing Post Trophy, Donctales Nov 4: Melbourne Cup, Flemington Nov 8: Breeders' Cup. Hollywood Park. Nov 15: Murphy's Gold Cup, Chellenham Nov 23: Japan Cup, Tokyo Nov 29: Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Newbury.

Dec 13: Tripleprint Gold Cup, Cheltenham. Dec 26: Ning George VI Chase, Kempion Dec 27: Coral Weish National, Chapslow

PACKETS

Jan 25-26: Professional singles champ-lonstrp, Tonlondge. Jan 30-Feb 8: Open singles chempioniship. Queen's Club

Feb 10-15: Combined Services champ-ionship, Queen's Club. Feb 16-23: Amsteur doubles championship,

Feb 35: University match, Oxford v Cambridge, Queen's Club. Mar 18: National League final, Winchester

Apr 4-13: Open doubles championship, Duesn's Outi

REAL TENNIS

Finb 8-9: Seponut Silver Recover Feb 10-15: Combined Services champ-ionship, Queen's Club

Mar 6-16: Amaieur sincles chambionship.

Apr 23-27: Women's British Open angles May 2-5: Amateur doubles championship

May 5-11: Prolessional singles championship Holyport.

ROWING

Mar 8; Women's head of the river, Tideway. Mar 19: Schools head of the river, Tideway May 22: Head of the River race, Tideway Mar 23: Women's University boot race, Oxford

v Cambridge, Henley. Mar 29: University boat race, Oxford v Cambridge, Tideway. Apr 5: Vesta scullers' need of the river,

May 23-25: National schools regulta, Notingham May 31-June 1: World Cup regella, Munich.

June 21-22: Hentey women's regatte; World Cup regatta, Paris July 2-5: Henley Royal Regatta

July 11-13: World Cup regatta, Lucerne 18-20: Netional championships.

July 19-20: Nations cup under-23 champion-ships. Milan. July 26: Home International, Holme

Aug 1-3: Coupe de la Jeunesee, Hoime

Aug 6-10: Junior world championships, Sept 1-7: World championships, Alguebei Oct 4: Themes world sculing challenge Oct 11: Pairs head of the river Tideway. Nov 7-9: Masters regalta, Adelaide. Nov 8: Fours head of the river, Tidewey

RUGBY LEAGUE

Jan 31-Feb 2: World nines. Townsville Mer 1; Australasian Super League season Mar 2: First and second division seasons slart Mar 11: University match, Oxford of Cambridge

Mar 14. Stones European SuperLangue Mar 22: First Sifk Out Chaffenge Cup serru-

Mar 29: Second Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-

Apr 12: Tn-senes (New Zealand, New South Wates, Queensland) begins. Apr 25: Austraha v New Zealand, Sydney May 3: Silk Cut Challenge Cup final, Wembley June 6-22: First series at world club

July 18-Aug 3: Second series at world dub championship. July 27: First and second division pren

Sept 7: Stones premiership begins Oct 11: World club championship linel Oct 17: New Zesland v Australia, Auckland. Nov 8: Great Britain v Australia, vtbc

RUGBY UNION

Jan 1: Emerging Wates v United States Cardiff Jan 4: Ireland v Italy, Dublin: Heineken Cup semi-final Leicester v Toulouse; Neath v United States Scotland Under-18 v Wales Under-18. Mynakide Jan 4-5, Punta del Este sevens

Jen 7: Pontyondd y United States

Jan 11: Wales v United States, Cardiff Jan 17; Ireland A v France A, Donnybrook Scotland A v Wales A, Myreside, Scotland Under 21 v Wales Under 21, vibc, Ireland Under 21 v France Under 21, vibc. Jan 18: heland v France, Dublin, Scotlar Wales, Edmburgh; World Cup qualifier, Sn Lanka v Singapore, vibo; CIS county championship quarter-linals

Lions no longer big game in Africa

David Hands, rugby correspondent, looks

at the chances of an endangered species

seeking success in a hostile environment

Then André Markgraaff, hen Anore Markgraatt, the South Africa coach, left Great Britain last month at the conclusion of his team's tour to Argentina, France and Wales, there was a grim smile on his face. 1996 had been a hell of a year, it seemed to say, but 1997 was going to be different.

Markgraaff believes that the team that he developed during that tour will start bearing fruit when the British Isles arrive in May for their first tour to South Africa since Bill Beaumont's 1980 team promised much, yet fell by the wayside

to a 3-1 series defeat. The gap in the long-running series, of course, was created by the existence in South Africa of the apartheid regime, which was toppled only in 1992. The Lions were due to visit in 1986 but, diplomatically, no formal invitation to tour was ever forthcoming from the late Danie Craven, then president of the South African Rugby Board. Australia filled the Lions' void in 1989 and their last tour - again ultimately unsuccessful - was the 2-1 series defeat to New Zealand in

The common thread running from 1989, through 1993 and so to this year is Ian McGeechan. His appointment as coach for a second time in New Zealand was unique



and the opportunity to do so for a third time will surely remain unparalleled. Bearing in mind that he was also a key playing member of the 1974 Lions, who made their invincible way through South Africa under the leadership of Willie John McBride, McGeechan's value to a threatened species needs no embellishment.

That the Lions are threatened is no secret. The prolonged spat over television rights last year that threatened the continuation of the five nations' championship in its present form demonstrated the potential for division that exists in the increasingly nationalistic world of rugby. Ironically it is the southern-hemisphere countries who may ensure the continuation of tours, partly because of the Lions' strong history and partly as variation to the diet of tri-nations (South Africa, New Zealand and Australia) fare.

Yet the southern-hemisphere nations have ample reason for regarding the British as second-class rugby citizens. Playing standards have yet to advance sufficiently to catch up with the strong provincial teams that exists in the south and the muddled approach to professionalism, notably in England, has earned few plaudits from down

Thus the dice are stacked against the Lions in the country where even New Zealand have found success so elusive. Markgraaff, you imagine, perceives the Lions as a tasty hors d'oeuvre before the tri-nations series, the only doubt in his mind being the potential for injuries to his own players in the demanding Super 12 series in April and May.

Just to ensure that the Lions have been well and truly softened up before the first of the three internationals, in Cape Town in June 21, the programme gives them three matches in succession against the most successful provinces in the country: on June 7 they play the famous Blue Bulls of Northern



Transvaal in Pretoria, four days later they meet Transvaal in Johannesburg and on June 14 they meet Natal, the victors over Transvaal in the Currie Cup final last year, in Durban.

Just to round off a hectic fortnight, the intervening match before the internationals begin is against the Emerging Springboks, whose likely quality can be judged by the callibre of players who toured Britain with South Africa A during the past two months. It will therefore be of primary importance that McGeechan's midweek team

performs as effectively as their counterparts of 1974 - as distinct from those of 1993 in New Zealand, vho fell apart.

The pre-Christmas internationals have confirmed certain obvious candidates for the Lions party. Robert Howley, the Wales scrum half who enjoyed such a good game against South Africa last month. will surely be first choice in his position, with Gregor Townsend, of Scotland, as his likely partner. Since Townsend is also the Scotland cantain, he must be a candidate for that role, though his

comparative youth may tell against him in a job that demands an ability to cut across national

A year ago Rob Wainwright, the Scotland flanker, looked an oddson prospect as captain, but he has not played this season and may struggle to make the tour party.
Phil de Glanville, of England. possesses the necessary maturity but, again, is by no means a castiron certainty to be a first-choice Lions centre and that, above all, is the prime requisite for the tour Oct 4-5; Fed Cup final.

Oct 4-5; Fed Cup final.

Oct 6-12: ATP championship, Vienna and Singapore; Porsche women's grand prix. Ridershadt.

Oct 13-19: European women's indoor championships. Zurich.

Oct 20-26: ATP Tour, Shutigart: Bell women's challenge, Quebes City. Seat women's Open, Libermbourg.

Oct 27-Nev 2: ATP Tour, Peris: Kremfin women's cup, Moscow.

Nov 3-9; Ameritach women's cup, Chicago.

Nov 3-9: Ameritech women's cup. Chicago. Nov 10-16: ATP Tous world championship

Nov 10-16: ATP Tour world championships, Henover Advanta women's champion-ships, Philadelphia Nov 11-18: Guardian Direct rational championships, Telliord. Nov 17-23: ATP Tour world doubles championships: WTA Tour champion-ships, New York Volve women's open, Petitaya City, Theiland Nov 28-30: Davis Cup final.

THEATHLORE

May 17-18: European duathlon, Glogow,

May 24; Ironmen Lanzarote.
June 1: World long-distance triathon championships, Nics; World long-distance dualithon championships, Zolingen, Sylinarismot

June 14: Windsor triathion.

June 22: British triastion chempionship: Electricite. June 26: Ironman Jepan, Leke Blait.

July 13: Scarborough triathlor; Ironman Europe, Roth, Germany. Europe, Hoth, Garmany.

July 19: British middle-dishence championships, tronbridge

Aug 2-3: European long-distance triathlon championships, Dermark. Aug 3: Ironman Switzerland, Zurich.

Aug 17: International triathion grand preceding syant, Portsmouth. Aug 24: British dustition championships, Swindon, trooman Canada, Partiction. Aug 30t International triathion grand prot, Sept & Home international dualition and Scotlish dualition championalities, Dum-

Sept 7: Bournemouth trathlen Sept 13-14: World duathion chemp Guerrice, Spain.

Sept 28: London tristition. Oot 11: Ironman Inlethon world champion-ships, Korta, Haweli.
Oct 12: Europeien dusition cup finel, Caleis Oct 23: European Inlethion cup finel, Alanys,

Nov 18: World triethion championships, Perth,

Feb 15-18: English Volleyball And Student Cup trasts, Leeds. Apr 5-8: English Cup finals, Shalled.
Apr 18: Royal Bank Socials Cup finals, Edinburgh.
May 10-11: EVA County Cup finals, Liverpool. May 18: City of Glasgow European Club

ne 14: Scottah Open, Perin Mar 21-22: Home nations tournament, Shelfeld.

Mar 28-31; Home nations tournament, Millield School, School of the state of

July 19-20: National championships, vibc. July 24-27: Europeen ohemplonshipe, Aug 2-3: National youth championships, vtbc. Aug 18-17: National serior chempionships, · vicc. Aug 30-31: British masters, vicc.

Feb 16-16: British powerditing championships Birminghem. May 7-11: European powertiting champion ships, Birminghari.
Ney 12-19: European weightifting championships, Crostia.
May 20-31: World junior man and women's
weightiffing championships. Care Town.

weightifting championships, Cape Town.
June 22-22: European juntor men end earlor
women's weightifting championships,
Seville. July 5: British weightlitting championships, Dec 5-14: World weightelling championships, Changest, Bressyl.

THE RESIDENCE OF

Mar 28-31: National racing championships, first round, Marazion.

Apr 12-13: National racing championships, second round, Hayling Island Apr 26-27: National racing championships, third round, Pevensey May 3-5; National boardsaling champ-

June 28-29: National racing championships. state 29-26: National racing championships, severith round, Telesside, Aug 9-10: National racing championships, severith round, Telesside, Aug 23-25: National tacing championships, eighth round, Allonby.

Sept 6-7: National boardsalling champ-

Oct 17-18: National racing championatios, final round, Poole. Oct 25-26: Inland national floaticisating

Apr 4-5: Freestyle World Cup, Darwer Apr 19: Souttsh Open I reestyle champion-ships, versue to be amounted. May 7-10: European treastyle championships,

June 1: British Open freestyle championships, venue to be announced. July 5-8: Challenge Cup of Great Britain, July 8-12: Women's world heastyle champion-ships, Clemnon-Ferrand, France. Aug 9-19: World Junior-championships, Turku,

Nov 12-14: Graco-Roman World Cup, Tehran.

Jan 25: Heineken Cup final: Prikington Cup exth round, Swalec Cup little round Jen 26: England women v Scotland women. Blackheeth Jan 28: Scotland development XV v Otago, String.

Jen 31: England A v Scotland A, Stoop Memorial Ground, England A v Otago, Bristol; Wales A v Iteland A. Pontyondd; England Under-21 v Scotland Under-21,

Feb 1: England v Scotland, Twickenham; Wales v Ireland, Cardiff, World Cup qualifier, Singapore v Thalland, vtbc Feb 8: World Cup qualitier, Papua New Guine:

Feb 9; Ireland women v England women, vibo Feb 14: Ireland A v England A. Donnybrook. France A v Wales A. vibc. Ireland Under-21 v England Under-21, Greystones. French Students v Welsin Students, vibc Feb 15; Ireland v Bogland, Dublin, France v Wates, Paris; World Cup qualifier, Thailand v Sri Lawla, vibo; French Schools v Wetsh Schools, vibo

Feb 20: World Cup qualifier, Tahtii v Cook Feb 22: Pilkington Cup quarter-linels, Sweled

Youth, vibc Feb 23: England women v France Women.

revermentation

Feb 28: England A v France A. Lacester:
Scotland A v Ireland A. vibc: England
Under-21 v France Under-21, Leicester:
Scotland Under-21 v Ireland Under-21,
vibc: England Colte v Italy Juriors,
Bestford Mar 1: England v France, Twickenfram; Scotland v Ireland, Edinburgh, World Cup qualifier, Yugoslavia v Switzerland, vibc Mer 8: CIS county championship semi-linals: Scotland Under-19 v England Colls, Suring: Welsh Youth v France Youth, Narberth.

Mar 14: France A v Scotland A, Paris: France Under-21 v Scotland Under-21; Welsti Students v English Students, vibc. Mar 15: France v Scotland, Pans; Walss v England, Cardill, World Cup qualifier, Luxembourg v Andorra

Mar 18-31: FIRA youth tournament, Buenos Mer 19: Busa final, Twickenham Mar 21-23: World Cup sevens, Hong Kong

Mar 22: Swelec Cup quarter-finals: Scottist Cup fourth round, England Under-18 : France Under-18, Twickenham Mar 23: France v Italy, Grenoble,

Mer 29: Pilkington Cup semi-finals Ireland Under-18 v England Under-18, Dublin Apr 2: England Under-18 v Scotland Under-18, Apr 5: Wates Under-18 v Ireland Under-18.

Apr 6: Scottish Cup lifth round r 12: Swalec Cup semi-linals, Royal Navy v Army, Twickenham, England Colts v Welsh Youth, Oxford: Wales Under-18 v England Under-18, vibc.

Apr 16: Army v RAF, Twickenham Apr 19: World Cup qualifier, Sweden v Luxembourg, vibc CIS county champ-jonship final, Twickenhern France Juniors v England Collis, vibc

Apr 20; Scottish Cup quarter-finals Apr 26: World Cup qualifier, Austria v Ulvrame vibo: Swaler Cup linel, Cardiff

May 3: World Cup qualifiers. Moldova v Norway, vibc, Lithuama v Sweden, vibc Hungary v Andone, vibc, RFU Intermediale and Jurior cup finals. Twickenham

May 10: World Cup qualitiers, Yugoslavia v Israel, vibc, Latvia v Bulgana, vibc, Croatia v Motdova, vibc: Pacific Rim champ-lonship, Carrada v United States, Vancou-ver Prilongton Cup linal, Twickerham, Scottish Cup final, Edinburght, Irish provin-May 17: World Cup qualifiers, Ukraine v Israel, vfbc, Croatia v Lativa, vfbc, Pacific Rim championship, Hong Kong v United States, Hong Kong, Middlesex savens, Twickenham

May 24: World Cup qualifiers, Switzerland v Austria, vrbc, Norway v Bulgana, vrbc, Pacific Rim champonship, Japan v United States, Tohyo, Eastern Province invitation XV v British Isles, Porr Elizabeth, Sanyo Cup, Twickenham May 98: Border v British Isles, East London

May 31: World Cup qualifier, Hungary v Lithuenia, vtbc, Western Province v Shitsh lales, Cape Town, French club final, Paris.

June 7: Northern Transvaal v British lakes, Pretoria, Pacific Rim chemplonship, United States v Japan, San Francisco June 10: Victoria v France, Melbourne

June 18: ACT v France, Cariberra. June 14; New Zealand v Fili, Albany; Netal v British Isles, Durban; Pacific Aim chemp-lonship, United States v Hong Kong, San

June 17: Emerging Springboks v British isles Wetington; Queensland v France

June 21: South Africa v British lates, Cape Town; Australia v France, Sydney, New Zeelend v Argentina, Wellington. June 24: Frae State v British letes. Bloem-Jonaten, Australian XV v France, Notation, Australian XV v France.

ne 28: South Aince v British Islae, Durban, Australe v France, Brisbane, New Zealand v Argentina, Hamilton: Pacific Rim champ-tonship, United States v Canada, San July 1: Northern Free State v Bnirsh leles. Welkom July 5: South Almon v British Isles, Johanesburg, New Zeeland v Australia, Christchurch

July 8: Western Australia v England, Penth July 12: Australia v England, Sydney July 19: South Alnca v New Zealand, Pretona. Aug 2: Australia v South Africa, Brisbane Aug 9: New Zealand v South Africa, Auckland

Aug 16: New Zealand v Australia, Dunedin Aug 23: South Aince v Australia, Johannesburg
Now-Dec: New Zeeland to tour England/Wales. South Africa to tour France,
Australia to tour Argentina/England Nov 29: England v South Africa, Twickerham

Dec 9: Oxford v Cambridge, Twickenham. SAILING

Feb 16-23, 5000 World Cup, Lake Garda, Italy Mar 10-21: Enterprise world championships Mar 22-28: 122 world championships. Cape Mar 31-Apr 4: National youth championships

May 12-17: Royal Lymington Cup May 21-25: Spa Olympic Regalita Medemblick Holland May 24-June 6; Prebell world championship May 31: Round the Island race

June 7-14. World blind championships, Weymouth July 3-12: Finn Gold Cup, Gdansk July 12-17: Leser Rachal youth world

July 19-28: Soling world championships. Copenhagen Copernagen
July 20-26: Laser Radial open and women's world champeorships. Morocco
July 25-31: Plying Prittern world champeonships, Cowes Corinthian YC

July 25-Aug 4: ISAF world youth champion ships, Japan shops, Japan

July 28-Aug 1: UK youth match racing championships Gratham Water July 28-Aug 8. Optimist world championships Largs.

July 28-Aug 14; Champagne Murrim Ad-meral's Cup July 30-Aug 4: 420 world championships. Phrade listurd. Hirton Island.
July 31-Aug 8: Mirror world championships.
Ontano.
Aug 1: Cadet world championships, Torquily
Aug 2-9; Skandia Uto Courts Week.

Aug 9-10: Challenger national champion

Aug 9: Fastnet race

Aug 18-22: Tempest world championships, Durham. Sect 3-13: Star world championships, Marble Sept 11-19: Snipe world championehips, San

Sept 20-21: Women's national champion-Sept 21: Start of Whitbread Round the World Oct 5-13: Gold Cup match racing, Bermude.

New 7-14: Tornado world championships SHOOTING

Jan 10-30: Great Briain Australian tour Feb 7-8: British air mile champions Arcersiey
Feb 14-16: British air rifle championships.

Aldersley
Feb 23: British running larget championehips. Aldersley. Mer 20-23: RAF pistol championships, Bisley Mar 29-31: Sislay Easter rife meeting. Apr 17-20: Army open pistol championships,

May 3: LMRA schools meeting, Brsley, May 3-8: English smallbore champio May 4-5; NRA team v Europe, Bislav May 10-11; NRA 330m championships, Bisley May 24-26; English XX championships, Sisley

June 29-July 6: RAF, Royal Navy and Royal Mannes championships, Bistey
July 4-6: Termorial Army championships

July 5-6: Brush Commonwealth RC meeting Bisley.
July 7-8: NRA Services meeting, Bisley
July 12-13: NRA Historic Arms meeting,
Bisley July 12-17: NRA March rifle meeting, Bisley.

July 14-17; NRA Schools meeting, Bisley. July 17: Ashburton Shield, Bisley July 18. Cadet national match, Bisley. July 18. Cadet national match. Busley.
July 18-26: NRA Imperate meeting. Bissley. NRA
Target Rifle meeting. Bissley.
July 26: Queen's prize linet, Bissley.
Aug 9-18: National smallbore rifle championships, Bissley.
Aug 15-17: National smallbore pistol
championships, Bissley.
Aug 23-25: Welsh Open, Bissley.
Sept. 2-4: Police national championships,
Bissley.

Sept 27-28: English VIII match rule meeting.

SKIING

Jan 5-6: World Cup, Kranjska Gora, Slovenia Jan 11-12: World Cup, Chamonix, France Jan 14: World Cup, Adelboden Switzerland

Jan 29: World Cup Laax, Switzerland Feb 1-2: World Cup, Kvittieli, Norway Mar 5: World Cup, Shigakogen, Japan Mar 12-16: World Cup finals, Vall, United

Jan 3-4: World Cup, Marbor, Slovenia. Jan 11-12: World Cup Bad Kleiniurchi Jan 18-19: World Cup, Zwiesel, Germany. Feb 28-Mar 1: World Cup, Nageno, Japan Mer 6-7: World Cup Mammoth Mountain United States. Mar 12-16; World Cup finals, Vali

SNOOKER Jan 2-5: Liverpool Victoria charity challenge. Berningham.

Jan 24-Feb 1: Recel Welch open, Newport. Wambley, Feb 19-22; International journament,

Feb 23-Mer 2: European open, Valletta, Maltis Mar 10-16: Theisand poem, Bengkok, Mer 18-28: Benson and Hadges Irish open Golfe, Co Kildsmi Mer 24-26: Empasey world championship final qualifying, Taltord. Mer 27-Aor 5: British open, Plymouth.

Apr 19-May 5: Embassy world champion ships, Shelfield SPEEDWAY

July 27: Inter-continental final, Vastervik Aug 3: World Junior final, Maeno, Czach Republic. Aug 8: British grand prix, viba. Sept. 14: World (sem cup fine), Plis, Poland. Oct 5: Grand prix challenge, Wiener Neustadi, Publika.

SQUASH

Jan 2-8: Commercial Union British junior open championships, Sheffeld. Jan 21-27: British national championships,

May 19: National schools championahips final,

vinc. May 22-30: European junior championships, Hatsinia.

Mar 25-Apr 6: Leakes British Open champton-ships, Cardiff
Apr 19: National League final.

Apr 23-26: European teem champtonships. Odense, Denmark.

4-11: World doubles championships Hong Kong. May 10-11: Prince national club linals, vibc. May 19-31: World masters, Johannesburg, July 26-Aug 8; World Junior women championships, Rio de Janeiro

Aug 7-17: World Garnes, Lahti, Finland. Aug 28-30: European club championahips, Lisbon. Sept 24-27: European champion of chem-pions fournament, Athens

Det 13-18: Women's world open champion-ships, Sydney.

Nov 3-8: Penter men's world open champion-ships, Kuala Lumpur

Nov 9-15; Penier men's world team champion ships, Kuala Lumpur ships, Kuala Lumpur Dec 1-8: Mahindra international levent Bombay SWIMMING

Jan 8-9; Fina World Cup event, Peking Jan 22-23; Fine World Cup event, Espoo, Fintand. Jan 25-26; Fina World Cup event, Makmb, Jan 28-29: Pina World Cup event, Glasgow Pob 1-2: Pina World Cup event, Galactivinchia

.lan 4-5: Fina World Cub event, Hong Kong.

Garmany.

Feb 4-5: Fina World Cup event, imperia, tialy.

Feb 8-9: Fina World Cup event, Paris

Feb 28-Mar 1: Club tesem championships,

Stockport

Apr 10-13: European trials, Sheffield. Apr 13-18: World short course chample shps, Gothenburg. May 24-25; Monte Carlo moeting. May 27-29: Barcetona meeting May 30-June 1; Canet meeting

June 28: Open water 25km champion: Holms Plansbort July 4-7: Czech Open championship, Pregue July 17-20: National championships, Crystal July 31-Aug. 3: European junior champion shipe, Glasgow.
Aug. 4-9: Nabonal ege-group championships

Coventry
Aug 13-24: European championships, Sewile,
Nov 1-2: National Nov 1-2: Netional synchronised swimming championships, Lecester Dec 11-14: National writer championships, Dec 13-16: Synchronised swimming World

Jan 17-19: European nations oup, Germany, Mar 14-16: Netsonal chemolonships, Brighton. Apr 24-May 5: World chemolonships, Major estir: May 10: Yesaka grand prix, vibo. July 1-7: European veteran championahipa.

Jan 7-12: English senior open.

ATTENDED TO THE OWNER OF THE OWNER OW

Prague, July 14-24: European youth championships, Stovaria. Part of House Have Jan 1-4: Hooman Cup, Perth, Australia.

Jan 1-4: Hopman Cup, Perth, Australia.
Jan 6-12: New South Wales Open, Sydney,
Jan 13-26: Ford Australian Open, Melboumia.
Feb 3-8: Austrian women's Open, Litz.
Feb 7-8: Davis Cup world group first round.
Feb 10-18: Franch women's Open, Parls.
Feb 17-23: ATP championality, Aniwerp and
Memprida: Faber women's grand prix,
Essen. Feb 24-Mer 2: ATP championship, Milan and

Mar 1-2: Fed Cup world group rounds.
Mar 3-16: State Farm Evert Cup (women),
Indian Wells. Mar 10-16: ATP Your, Inclian Walle Mar 17-30: Upton Championehipe, Key Biscayna, Florida,

Secayne, Hornos,
Mar 31-Apr 8: Family Circle Megazine Cup
(women), Hilton Head Island.

Apr 4-8: Davis Cup world group second round,
Davis Cup EurofAfrican zone, group one,
Grast Editain v Ulcraine or Zintashaw, Vibo. r 7-13: Bausch & Lomb women's championships. Amelia Island, United States

Apr 14-20: ATP championship, Tokyo and Barcelona; Japen women's Open, Tokyo. Apr 21-27: Monte Carlo Open; Budepeet women's Open, Danamon women's Open, Jakarta. Apr 28-May 8: Rexona women's Cup, Hamburg; Croatien women's Open, Bol May 5-11: German Open, Hamburg; Italian women's Open, Rome.

May 12-18: Italian Open, Rome; German women's Open, Berlin; Rover women's championships, Carolli. chemponships, Cardiff.

May 19-25; ATP Tour world team championships: Sparsh women's Open, Madrid;
Strasbourg women's International.

May 21-24; Women's world doubles Cup,
Edinburch. Edinburgh.

Edinburgh.

May 26-June 8: French Open, Roland Gerros.

French

June 9-15: Stella Artots championships, Queen's Ctub; DFS women's Classic, Birmingham June 17-21: Direct Line Insurance women's championships, Eastbourns. June 23-July 6: The All England Champion-ships, Wandledon.

July 8-13: Bristol Chatenger. July 12-13: Fed Cup semi-finals July 14-20: ATP championship, Stuttgert and Washington; Czech women's Open, Kar-lovy Vary, Women's international, Palermo. July 21-25: LTA county cup, various venues.

July 21-27; Bank of the West women's class Stanford, California; Warsaw women July 28-Aug 3: ATP Tour, Montreel; Toshiba women's classic, San Diego; Meria Lankowstr Open, Austria. Aug 4-10: ATP Totx. "Chrolmali; Acura women's classic, Los Angeles. Aug 11-17: ATP chambionship, Indianapolis and New Haverr, Du Maurier women's Open, Toronto: United States women's hardcourt championships, Alianta.

hardcourt championships, Alianta.

Aug 25-Sept 7: United States Open, Flushing Meadow, New York. Meadow, New York.

Sept 8-13: NEC world youth cup

Sept 8-14: Bournerouth International open.

Sept 15-21: Michinel International women's championships, Tolyo.

Sept 19-21: Davis Cup asmi-linets; Davis Cup world group qualifying round.

Sept 22-28: Washolek women's International.

Sect 23-28: Compan Grand Slam Con-

May 10-11: National racing championships, fourth round, Cold Knapp, Cardiff.
May 24-26: National racing championships, litth round, Hove

championships, Weymouth.

Sept 13-14: Youth and mesters national championships, Weymouth.

Sept 20-21: National racing championships, natih round, Clacton.

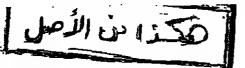
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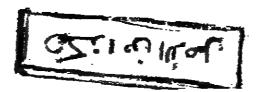
Mey 22-25: European Greco-Roman championships, Kouvola, Finland.

Aug 28-Sept 1: World (reestyte champion-blaps, Krasnoyessk, Flusista Sept 10-13: World Greco-Roman champion-ships, Woodaw, Potend. Sept 20: English Open championships, venue

Compiled by Robert Hands

مكذا بن الأصل





John Hopkins looks back at a remarkable year for a golfer whose best is still to come

Future burning bright for Tiger — the chosen one

Tyger! Tyger! burning bright, In the forests of the night, What immortal hand or eye Could frame thy fearful

William Blak

o career burnt brighter at such a tender age than that of Tiger Woods, the prodigious who celebrated his 21st golfer, who celebrated his 21st birthday on Monday and flew from his million dollar home in Florida to spend it among the blackjack tables and fruit machines of Las Vegas. Tiger wanted to make his birthday an occasion to remember rather than just have a dinner with his parents or some such," a member of his manage-ment team said. "So he went to Vegas with some schoolfriends to do some gambling."

Though he has come of age for little more than 48 hours, Woods already finds himself in a position in golf that has not been matched since the emergence of Jack Nicklaus at almost the same age, 35 years ago, and Arnold Palmer before that, Indeed, Woods has exceeded those two icons in the success that he has had since August 27 when, in a 13-word statement, he confirmed that he had turned professional Perhaps one has to go back to 1930, when Bobby Jones, the legendary ama-teur, won the Open and Amateur titles of the United States and Great Britain in one dizzy spell, as find a golfing phenomenon of similar proportions.

Nobody has made such a profes sional debut as Woods, who finished among the leading five players in five consecutive tourna" ment, something that no rookie had done before him. The fact is that Woods, whose father is an native American and mother a Thai, has taken the game away from being the sole domain of a middle-class, country chib. predominantly white constituency and caused it to enter the consciousness of a far wider audience, than ever before. If there was any doubt about this, then consider this: Michael Jordan, the basket-

ball player, declared that Woods recent life by naming him as its was his biggest hero on earth.

Sport in the United States is best in doing this, it was acknowledged by Sports-Illustrated, edging the remarkable interest the authoritative weekly magangemented in Woods since he won zine. When Sports Illustrated regets it. Late last mouth it added the began when he signed contracts. Nike deal to his client.

125

A A THE SALE



At 21, Woods has taken the world of golf by storm and captured the imagination of enthusiasts in a way not seen since the emergence of the great Nicklaus

gilt to the gingerbread of Woods's . worth \$60 million over five years,

excluding bonuses, with Nike, the sportswear company, and Titleist, the golf ball manufacturer. "Eight million dollars a year! That's over three times what Greg Norman gets," Hughes Norton, Woods's There was no lessening of

interest in Woods when 21 of his first 27 rounds as a professional were in the 60s, contributing to him making the fastest jump into the world's top 50 golfers ever. Then, just to cap it all, Woods won £450,000). Golf, they say, is a

game of inches. Here was a young

man roaring ahead in leaps and bounds, it was unheard of,

When the stars threw down their specini watered heaven with their

Did he who made the Lamb make

have requested him. The Bill Cosby sitcom show would write an episode around Tiger if he would agree to appear in it. If we had wanted to. I could have filled every working day since he turned prowith interviews with journalists. appearances on chat shows and situation comedies and the like."

After the success that Woods has had these past three months, Nicklaus's observation at the US Masters last year, to the effect that Woods could win more Masters than he and Palmer combined, no

longer sounds exaggerated.
At times, Woods's parents say things that jar on the ears of "Tiger has Thai, African, American, Indian and European blood," Tida, his mother, said, "He can hold everyone together. He is the Universal Child." In this extravagant claim, she is backed up by Buddhist monks in Los Angeles and Thailand who, after

'If he becomes a politician, he will be either a president or a prime minister'

reading Tiger's astrological charts, said: "Tiger has wondrous powers. If he becomes a politician, he will be either a president or a prime minister. If he enters the military,

he will be a general."

In an article in Sports Illustrated. Earl Woods is quoted as saying about his son: Tiger is the Chosen One. He'il have the power to impact nations. Not people, nations. The world is just gening a taste of his power.

This would sound frightening, were it not for two facts. First, that Woods is a phenomenon, as we have seen; secondly, that he carries such sentiments with obvious ease. "I don't see any of this as scary or a burden," Tiger said in the same article. "I have always known where I wanted to go in life. I've never let anything deter me. This is my purpose. It will unfold."

Tyger! Tyger! burning bright, In the forests of the night; Dare frame thy fearful

Rc3 Rc7 Rc8 Nxc7

Rolling back the years to a world of difference

port is real life on fast-forward. I have often said this now I propos to prove it. For, in sport, everything is enaggerated, of-ten to absurd levels: stratospheric elation and cataclysmic dejection. Triumph and disaster dance hand-inhand to the music of sport equanimity is the eternal wallflower as the endless gavotte

of sport continues.

Real history missinds at a leisurely rate in world affairs. Even in such allegedly frenctic matters as party politics, the march toward denouement takes place in slow motion. A week may be a long time in politics, but half a second is an eternity, to an athlete in

In family life, generation succeeds generation in units of about 30 years; but, in sport, entire dynasties grow, reign, subside into decadence, crash and plummet, and the entire cycle takes no more than a few years. Heroes come and go like mayflies. A year passes in sport and all is different a decade and the entire landscape has changed.

So, with a cat-scattering thump, the essential reference book for all enthusiasts of the sporting round lands on the doormat the Sports Yearbook 1997 the omnisport Wisden.

This book has exist- ed in various forms under various spousors for not quite a decade and, in order to prove my fastforward thesis, I turned back

to the first one. it was published as The Sportspages Almanac 1990, under the editorship of Maithew Engel, who now edits, with some style, the singlesport Wisden. It tells of sport's 1989, so let us examine, as we coter a new year, a gap of eight years. Eight years a political season, an historical moment, a geological nano-

second, a sporting eternity. Eight years another country - they do things differently there. Survey it the sporting landscape is not just changed it is virtually morecognisable Endless seismic upheavals have crected entire mountain ranges, demolished continents, emptied oceans, flooded entire nations. Let us start with football,





Midweek View

and the day on which the domestic game changed for-ever. This was April 15, 1989, and a day that needs no more description than a single word: Hillsborough, The Taylor report, expected to change nothing, was produced in its

The year was also the beginning of the end of the Liverpool dynasty. The first division, which was in those days the first division, was United finished eleventh and Newcastle United were boi-...

Everything that was set in stone in 1989 has crumbled away

tom. The politically-motivated debate on identity cards for supporters continued. Football was haunted by disaster, hag-ridden by violence, a game descending into contempt and poverty.

English cricket, however, began its summer filled with the brightest optimism. Most expected considerable success in the Ashes series under David Gower, but it turned out to be the beginning of the downward spiral into a national joke. England lost 40 to Australia, Gower was duly dumped at the end of it all and lan Botham was not picked for the winter tour, a decision that he described as "macabre". The West Indians, meanwhile, were unbeatable.

The Dubin inquiry looked

into Ben Johnson and the

drugs business. Steve Ovett, still a leading athlete, burst into tears on television. Mike Tyson would never be beaten.

Desert Orchid won the Chel-

tenham Gold Cup and Nashwan was, briefly, the

horse of the century. The England rugby team made the first moves in a climb away from the status of national joke, and they did better than expected in the five nations' championship. All the same, France won the title more or less as a matter of routine; and for the fourth year running. Who could ever think of stopping there? Rug-by league was a winter game and Widnes won the cham-

pionship.
Snooker was still sexy and Steve Davis won the world championship for the third year running. Ivan Lendl was the world's No I tennis player, though Boris Becker won Wimbedon Steffi Graf, winning Wimbledon for the sectime, looked rather promising: Chris Evert retired with 157 tournament victories. A decent English tennis play-

ex? No chance. Meanwhile, Alain Prost whinged his way to the For-mula One world drivers' championship, but everyone lenew that Ayrton

Senna, who came second, had an extra dimension to his skills. The year was surely just a blip in his personal pattern history was his for the taking. Eight years in sport, and

not so much a changed as a different world. Everything that was set in stone in 1989 has crumbled: one eternal order has succeeded the next in the twinkling of an eye.

Everything that seems most solid, settled and certain in sport today will change, and change soon, for that is sport's nature. Henman, Cantona, Shearer, Hill, Dettori, Faldo: enjoy it while you can, for sporting lease has all too short a date. Sport is extreme, crazed wild, miserable, delightful

Rather like your own youth. *The BBC Radio 5 Sports Yearbook 1997, edited by Peter Nichols, published by Oddball, price £12.99.

absurd and gone in a flash.

New body defended by Corsie

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

WITH the world's leading lawn and carpet bowlers poised to take control of the professional side of their sport, Richard Corsie, the chairman of the Professional Bowls Association (PBA), was keen yesterday to play down suggestions that the game could fall victim to player

The PBA's new company, the World Bowls Tour Limited (WBT), which is launched today, will look after bowls at highest level, and will replace the World Indoor Bowls Council (WIBC) as the sport's leading organising body once the Saga world indoor championships are over this month.

"We are not a breakaway group," Corsie, who has won world title three times, said. "We have consulted with the sport's governing bodies the World Bowls Board and the WIBC — at every stage. We invited them to sit on our board - an offer which they have so far declined.

"Our initiative will unify the sport at top level, so that we can speak with one voice, and make a more professional impact with sponsors and television companies. It represents the most exciting and significant development in our game since Sir Francis Drake's famous dalliance on Plymouth Hoe. Everyone will benefit - at every level of the

sport." The WBT has pledged to give its "full support and cooperation" to the WIBC in the promoting of the 1997 world championships at Preston this month; and the WIBC, in handing over the reins to the olayers, has, in its turn, promised full support and cooperation" to the tour for the four remaining events on the present BBC contract.

The quiet revolution sees players taking a leading role in the game without the traumas seen in other sports. Corsie said: "We created the WBT in order to achieve our goals for more television. more sponsorship, and more events - because we want more opportunities for our members as professionals."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEERAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT This signalling problem occurred in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl. Dealer West Love all

¥Q9876 +143 **₽**K23 ***AKJ884** 401073 **753** .2 ♥AKJ10 4 10 **+AJ189876**

When West (Chris Convery, playing for South Africa) could not double Five Clubs, East (Craig Gower) correctly decided to bid on and, to ensure the best lead against Six Clubs, he bid Five Diamonds. On the ace of diamonds. Gower played the nine. Now Convery was afraid that the ace of spades would not stand up (after all, East was quite likely to have five spades to continue bidding over Five Clubs), and so continued diamonds. Declarer ruffed and, after drawing trumps, got his losing spade

away on the long hearts. There was a lot of discussion of East's correct card. Zia Mahmood plays that, in highlevel signalling situations, a high card encourages and a low card discourages. Furthermore, an odd card shows an odd number and an even card an even number in the suit. So he would play the eight from East's diamond holding. All very well in theory, but on another occasion East's diamonds might be KQ9532.

and now how could he both encourage and show his length? Anyway, even if West knows that East has an even number of diamonds, it might in case East had only four.

I think Ronnie Rubin's suggestion was the best. East can see that a spade is likely to stand up as, with seven spades, West might have bid immediately over Five Clubs. Hence East should play the queen of diamonds on the ace. As that technically denies the king, it forces West to try

Year end congress

The Swiss teams at the year end congress was won on a split tie by Barnet and Maggie Shenkin. Victor Silverstone and Gerald Haase: second were Akram Zaman. Peter Edelman, Malcolm Pryor and Tony Eastgate.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CHAMPART a. A kind of lease b. Half of a meadow

c. Field sketching

COWAN a. A milkmaid b. A mountain ash

CLASTIC a. Inelastic b. Tending to tears

c. Broken rocks CONIROSTER a. A rabbit census c. Cock-crow

Answers on page 37

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Reverse hat-trick

"The interest in Tiger has been

greater than in any client we have ever had," Bev Norwood, vice-

president, golf publishing, at the

International Management

Group, said. "He has received

requests to be on the covers of

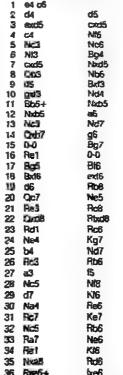
interview requests have slowed

down now to about 20 each week.

ven non-spons n

Michael Adams, the pre-tournament favourite at Hastings. has caused a sensation by losing his first three games. In the third round he went down to Eduard Rozentalis in a sharp variation of the Caro-Kann. Xie Jun (the former women's world champion, from China), the early leader, was toppled by Stuart Conquest. Hebden and Rozentalis now share the lead on 21/2. White: Eduard Rozentalis Black: Michael Adams

Hastings, December 1996 Caro-Kann Defence



Short's triumph Nigel Short, Great Britain's top-ranked grandmaster, has

Tjuchem tournament in Gro-ningen, Holland, coming ahead of a field that included

many of the world's leading Chess information The Groningen web site,

won the powerful Koop

Diagram of final position

金工工工工

which contains all the games with notes, can be accessed on http://www.noord.bART.nl/ ssg/groningl.htm.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

☐ Raymond Keene writes Monday to Friday in Sport and in Weekend on Saturday.

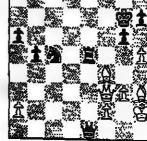
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

37

White to play. This position is from the game Lubbers - Rostand, Holland, 1956. White can regain his sacrificed exchange (rook for minor piece) with I. Bxe5+. However, he can do better. Can you see how?

Solution on page 37



McGeechan dreams of taking Lions to higher plane

tionals involving the home unions in the pre-Christ-mas period (if you include England's meeting with the New Zealand Barbarians in that category) and it is no great reflection on British or Irish rugby that the most encouraging of them could be perceived as the 37-20 defeat that

South Africa inflicted upon Wales. That, at any rate, is the view of Ian McGeechan, who, next summer, will take the best 35 players from these islands to play South Africal McGeechan, the coach for the third successive time to the British Isles team, might reasonably have hoped to have pencilled in half his tour party, but now he must look to the five nations' championship for more positive food for thought. However, the Lions selectors will

be noting club form as well as that of the various countries, and that is where McGeechan has found most of his encouragement at the half-way point of the British season. The open-minded conjunction of players, coaches and referees has offered a potent mixture in the English first division, not all of it

tive of a changing attitude. McGeechan perceives three dis-tinct stages for the leading British players: the attitude adopted in domestic rugby, the creation of a more expansive game by the nat-ional teams, leading to the highest level of all - the Lions, whom McGeechan takes to be one of the top three sides in the world, with New Zealand and South Africa.



McGeechan: optimistic

David Hands suggests that players' performances for their clubs as well as long as they are seen to be striving for the ideal. countries may hold the key to selection for the British Isles touring team

McGeechan, though, has looked

That is how the Lions are regarded in South Africa," he said, "and that is the challenge for us next

"The Lions are bigger overseas than any national team and, for that reason, they are more important now than they have ever been for the ractical development of our top players. We keep talking about different levels and more competitions here, but, though it may be only a small group of players, there is still some value in having a Lions test at home each season, to represent the highest possible level British players can aspire to."

McGeechan leaves no room for doubt over the significance with which he regards the Lions concept. yet he is enough of a realist to know that results on the field have to reflect the worth of that concept. In 1989 his Lions beat Australia 2-1. in 1993 they lost by the same margin to New Zealand: the forthcoming series in South Africa, you might say, will be the defining one.

in vain at the international stage for the tactical ambition that will be required to beat South Africa. "We won't win there by playing a tight game or a short game," he said. "We have to match them in the tight areas, but we have to remain as flexible as we can, to make them work. That's where New Zealand adapted so well last summer: they didn't beat South Africa in the

be the key for us. The most encouraging feature of our pre-Christmas international programme was probably Wales's match with South Africa. Although technically Wales weren't good enough to achieve what they set out to do, they were trying to create positions they could play from.

scrums, but that area didn't become an Achilles' heel and that will

There has been no criticism of England in those set-piece areas over the past few seasons, but it's what happens afterwards that matat the breakdown, the

breakdown and from it. England have had difficulty in changing. They tend to be the most structured of sides, but, in South Africa, once the ser-pieces are right, we will want to destructure the game and produce fluid situations. I hope we will see this evolving in the five nations', see more happening away

sion-making and quality play."

That is an optimistic outlook. given the introverted nature of the five nations' and the limited experience of many of those who will be playing in it, but McGeechan would rather have glorious failure than win a restricted series by the odd penalty goal.

from the set-pieces, quality deci-

That is necessary both for the development of his players as allrounders and for the wellbeing of the international game. It may be anothema to national coaches, but the Lions selectors will not object to the home unions losing games in the five nations' championship, so

There are a number of players who have done themselves no harm by the way they are playing at club level," McGeechan said. Though he will not name names at this juncture, he will have been heartened by the consistency. month by month and year by year. of players such as Martin Johnson. the Leicester lock, who has shown



through a four innerary that McGeechan describes as the equivalent of ten five nations' games and three World Cup finals.

The odd outstanding five nations' appearance will not do. Potential Lions must be able to call up outstanding form on each of the four weekends if they are to be in the roll-call by the end of March. Some of the pieces seem already to be in place. Robert Howley, of Wales, must have booked one of the scrum half berths, Gregor Townsend, of Scotland, one of those at stand-off half, while Keith Wood, the Ireland captain, is frontrunner for a hooking spot

Genuine quality, however, is thin. If England, through weight of playing numbers, expect to provide the core of the side, they will have to improve on form so far. The five nations' is frequently the making of Scotland, while Ireland, against Italy on Saturday, and Wales, against the United States on January II, have yet more preparation before the opening weekend of the championship, on January 18. If McGerchan has his fingers crossed at this stage; who could blame him?.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Lydon ends period of distinction at Wigan

By Christopher Irvine

ON THE field, in the dressing-room and, latterly, in the office at Central Park, in his role as football manager at Wigan, Joe Lydon was an inspirational figure and the consummate professional. His decision to leave yesterday was not easy after an li-year association with the club.

Lydon's time at Wigan covered the most successful period in the club's history. As player, assistant coach and manager, Lydon's input was always significant and his resignation, tended at the expiry of his present contract, was accepted reluctantly after lengthy discussions with Jack Robinson, the Wigan chair-

"It's been very amicable, something we talked about for a while," Lydon said. "I just needed to take a step away from Wigan and from rugby league for a few weeks to consider my options."

Interest has been shown by several rugby union clubs in Lydon. He helped to coach the North division last season. His farewell appearance for Wigan was at Twickenham last May in the second crosscode match against Bath. Nonetheless, his future is thought to lie in league, possibly at Leeds in succession to Hugh McGahan as football

The second challenge match at St Helens today - weather permitting — will be the first Lydon has played no part in since he signed for Wigan from Widnes, in 1986, and became league's first £100.000



Lydon: significant input

FOOTBALL

transfer. He won every domestic honour and made 30 appearances for Great Britain. Speed was his prime asset, and accounted for two of the best tries seen at Wembley, in the 1984 Challenge Cup final for Widnes against Wigan.

Robinson praised Lydon's ambassadorial qualities and regretted his departure. The football manager's post set up for Lydon will remain unfilled. I am proud to have played my part as player. coach and manager at a club that has gained so much success," Lydon said.

A vouthful Wigan side is again at half-strength for the return fixture at St Helens. The Knowsley Road pitch is subject to a further inspection at 9am. The surface was deemed playable yesterday and is covered by protective sheeting. Conditions overnight will dictate whether the match goes ahead. Heavy snow yesterday accounted for the other matches scheduled for today, at Keighley and Dewsbury, which have been

rearranged for Sunday. Nigel Wright, who missed Wigan's 32-22 win in the first leg, last Thursday, is over his flu and is on the substitutes' bench. He is the one change to Wigan's line-up. Kris Radlinski, scorer of three tries in the first match, Stephen Holgate, Daryl Cardiss and Gael Tallec have all recovered from minor injuries.

Bobbie Goulding's return from a back injury gives added substance to a strong St Helens back line. His partner at half back is Paul Anderson. normally a forward, whose full debut follows the big impact that he made on the recent Great Britain Academy tour of New Zealand. The versatile Andy Northey fills in at hooker for the first time, as Keiron Cunningham is still sidelined after a knee

operation. Leeds, who this week completed their six-strong overseas player quota, have acquired Rudi Meir, an Australian skills coach, who is joining them on a six-month secondment from Southern Cross University. He had a short spell at Wigan during



Philippoussis, of Australia, follows through on his powerful service on his way to a Hopman Cup victory over Forget, of France

TENNIS

El Sawy is next in line for Henman

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TIM HENMAN, the leading British player, must believe that fortune is on his side, for he has begun his 1997 campaign on a gentle note. Having beaten Herbert Wiltschnig, an Austrian qualifier, 6-3, 6-2 in the first round of the Qatar Open yesterday. Henman now has to meet another qualifier. Tamer El Sawy. the Egyptian No l. in the second round today.

Henman beat El Sawy 6-7, 6-2 6-2 in a dead Davis Cup rubber at Wimbledon on grass in September and, if he repeats that win on the Qatar hard courts, he will go through to the quarter-finals without meeting a player who received direct entry into the

Although El Sawy is ranked only No 149 in the world, as against Henman's No 29, he was good enough to beat Jan Siemerink, of Holland, the No 3 seed who is No 15 in the world, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6

in the first round. Earlier, El Sawy had beaten Jamie Delgado, of Great Britain, Henman's great friend and former doubles partner. 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the final qualifying round. Michael Stich, the former

Second division

Wimbledon champion, playing his first match since he was beaten by Henman in the first round of the Grand Slam Cup in Munich last month, lost to Sergi Bruguera, of Spain, 6-3, 6-1 yesterday and described the defeat as the worst match he had played in a decade.

Thomas Muster, of Austria. the No1 seed, reached the second round with a 7-5. 6-4 win over Hernan Gumy, of Argentina, and Petr Korda, of the Czech Republic, the defending champion, had a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Stephane Simian, of France.

Mark Philippoussis unleashed 37 aces as he completed successive singles and doubles victories yesterday to lift Australia to a 2-1 win over France, the No 4 seeds, in the Hopman Cup mixed teams' championship at the Burs-wood Dome in Perth.

Philippoussis defeated Guy Forget 7-6, 6-2 in the men's singles and then combined with the veteran. Nicole Bradtke, to win a tense mixed doubles 7-6, 7-6 against Forget and Mary Pierce. France had earlier taken the lead when Pierce beat Bradtke 7-6, 6-1 in

Blyth believes Challenge fleet has split into two divisions

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

THE BT Global Challenge fleet has now sailed the best part of 12,000 miles over two legs to New Zealand. There are still 20,000 more miles to sail before the race is won, yet the class acts in the field have aiready asserted themselves.

The top boats, which arrived in Wellington at the head of the fleet on Monday, are Group 4, under Mike Golding, Toshiba Wave Warrior, under Simon Walker, the race's youngest skipper, and Save The Children, under the command of Andy Hindley. the former training skipper for crew volunteers in the race.

Those three have achieved remarkably close overall times for the two legs and have drawn well away from Mark Lodge's Motorola, the next boat. When times for both legs are taken together, Golding has a 16-hour advantage over Walker, who, in turn, has just five hours over Hindley. Then there is a biggish gap to Lodge, who is 36 hours behind Hindley and 57 adrift of

Lodge can expect his time to be improved somewhat after redress is awarded for time taken refuelling the dismasted

that, had she not been dismusted and demoted to the back of the fleet for the second leg, Concert would also be in

the top echelon. "There are two bunches." Chay Blyth, the race director said, "the ones who want to race and the ones who want to get round. The ones who want to race are very competitive. I think it might change on the next leg [1.500 miles from Wellington to Sydney because it will be a bit of a sprint and the backmarkers will probably stay with the leaders."

Latest positions

Blyth is thrilled by the closeness of the racing at the front of the fleet and argues that his volunteers should be taken more seriously by many in the racing fraternity in Great Britain.

"If you look at Save The Children and Group 4, for example," he said, "they actually crossed tacks at the waypoint right in the middle of the ocean. The racing is hard and very very the competitive. I think 'amateur' in

Motorola was the first of three finishers yesterday, in fourth place for the leg. Nine hours after her, Global Teamwork got in after a frustrating wait for a breeze, followed by Commercial Union, whose crew quickly joined in the huge New Year's Eve party under way at Queen's Wharf. For Kit Harrison, 23, a crew member on Teamwork, the last day racing into Welling-ton and the arrival in

Lambton Harbour have been the highlight of the race so far. "Racing down the coast, we were in tune as never before." he said. "Every manoeuvre worked fantastically well. As soon as we docked, we were handed a crate of beer, steak,

sandwiches, fish and chips, fresh fruit and strawberries." The backmarkers, meanwhile, were feeling the aftereffects of hurricane Fergus, with Time & Tide, 3Com, Courtaulds International and Heath Insured II reporting horrendous conditions. The disabled crew on Time & Tide were beating into 56 knots of wind with waves sweeping the deck and the cockpit flooding RUGBY UNION

Ashton and Bath yet to resolve differences

BY DAVID HANDS

BATH players will start the new year as they finished the - uncertain about the future of Brian Ashton, their chief coach. The league game with Saracens on Samuday. will be the third weekend since Ashton's future with the club. was called into question, though yesterday there were further discussions involving him and Tony Swift, the club chairman.

"We are hoping the situation will be resolved in the very near future," Swift - a: pupil of Ashton's when both were living in the North West: - said last night.

Bath must hope to arrive at position where they can harness Ashton's considerable egaphing talents and the organisational qualities that John Hall has brought, as quently as director of rugby.

There are said to have been differences of animion between the men which have led to the present impasse; meanwhile, Andy Robinson, helped by Ged Roddy, has been preparing the team which, against-Saracens, remains without the injured Mike Catt.

等地震,此后。

David Young, the Wales prop, will miss Cardiff's Heineken Cup semi-final with Brive on Sunday and, in all probability, the international with the United States in Cardiff on January II, the team for which will be named tomorrow. Young damaged a: shoulder against South Africa. last month.

With two other international props available - Andrew Lewis and Lyndon Mustoe -Cardiff should not go shorthanded to France, Mustoe has withdrawn from the game today at the Arms Park between Emerging Wales and a United States XV, who, if the bitter weather continues, are likely to play all four of their tour matches in Cardiff, where undersoil heating offers insur-

ance against the weather. That is one of the main headaches for the Heineken Cup organisers, who cannot afford, any postponement. They have asked Leicester and Brive, the host clubs this weekend, to ensure that they. have adequate pitch covering. and hot-air blowers available so that the games can go! ahead. Leicester, where therewas heavy snow yesterday, will install heating today and are optimistic that their semifinal with Toulouse will proceed.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Nucl-of 3 0 unless stated "denotes af-fichet filatch pools coupon numbers in brackets placence prich inspection FA Carting Premiership (1) Arsenal v Middlesbrough (2) Chelsea v Liverpool (3) Coventry v Sunderland (4) Derty v Sheffield Wed (5) Everton v Blackburn (5 45) (5) Lecayler v Tottenham 15) Leicyster v Tottenham (-) Manchester Uld v Aston Villa (8 0) (6) Newcastle v Leeds (7) Southampton v Wimbledon (8) West Ham v Nottingham Forest

Nationwide League (9) Barnsley v Oldham(10) Berningham v Manchester City(11) Bolton v Bradford tootoon v Bradiord Charlion v Ipawich Crystal Palace v Reading Hudderstield v Stoke Norwich v Portsmouth Oxford Ulid v Grimsby Port Vale v Southend Sheffield Ulid v Wolverham Swindon v QPR West Bromwich v Transieri

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First den-sion: Thatcham y Fixtle Sports-

(21) Brentford v Wycombe (22) Bristof Rovers v Plym (23) Bumley v Chesterheld (24) Crewe v Millimali (24) Crewe v Millwall (25) Luton v Bury (26) Norts County v Bournemouth (27) Peterborough v Walford (28) Precion v Westham (29) Rotherham v Giffingham (30) Streensbury v Blackpool (31) Stockport v fork (32) Wassali v Bristol City Peterborough
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133) Cotchestor v Leyton Onen 134, * Destington v Carliste 135; Eveter v Barbet 136; Hardepool v Hull (37) tendolo v Wigan (38) Mansleys v Futham 136, Commungton v Funtam 139, Commungton v Carditi 1--- Scarbough v Carsondge Uid 1--- Scarbough v Chester 1--- Scarbough v Scarbough Uid 1--- Scarbough v Brighton

Bell's Scottish League Premier division 401 Dunteer Utd v Aberdeen First division (44) East File v Suring (45) Falvith - Archie ... (46) Greenock Morton v St Muren (47) Partick v Clydobank ..., (48) St Johnstone v Dundee There division

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DR MARTENII LENGUE. Prentier division: Afterstone v Numbrion a Saddock v Knigs Lyrn, Cheirnsland v Hastenge, Chellerham v Halseamen. Crawley v Ashland, Dorchesse v Merthyr, Gestay v Burton. Newport AFC v Salobury; Satingbourne v Grävissend and Norhibeal. Worcester City v Sudbury in Middland division; Borborath v Shapshed D, Cotb, v Raundle T; Dudley Town v Biston, Estatham v VS Raight, Moor Green v Sation Cataland v VS Raight, Moor Green v Sation Cataland Trees. Player North Section Southern division; Children v Settem Sauthern division; Children v Westernsper Marc. Cerebrates Town v Forest Green, Clevedon v Yate; Dambord v Margare Pisha London v Eris. London v Visual Bertage. Responding v Work of Section v Visual v Forest of Section v Visual v Forest of Section v Visual v Forest of Visual v Faretam Hayand v Woymouth, Nesport (IoN) e Besteley, St. London's v Torbridge Angals, Watersfoorlie v Translandge, Wilmey v Bucklandgem Town

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Dagenham and Red. Hendan v Ysovit
Herbridge v Grays: St Abarra v Aytochuny,
15-uton Unfeed v Kingstoniam (1) 30)
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Abrigation Touri v Molessey, Addershot Town
v Tissnie. Barton Ravillis v Workingham,
Gillericae v Cocydon: Beginer Regis v
Basingstoliae. Chiesten v Mardon-United: Harmon v Tooting and Mardenni,
Leyton Permant v Mardon: Usbridge v
Working, Walton and Hersham v Catwey
Island Second division: Cheshunt v Coller
Row and Romford: Edopiero v Windson and
Elon; H Harmond: Edopiero v Windson and
Elon; H Harmond: V Wendbey; Leather

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Sridghorth; Rocester v Chesetown (7.90);

Sambaell v Olduny U; Srikhal T v

Kryperstey V, Stratom T, v Hindyley

Altricit; Wilenhald v Boldman S M.

RUGBY UNION Tour metch

RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB MATCHES: St Halens v Wigan (at Knowsley Road, 2 30). Postponed: Devis-bury v Batter; Reightey v Hudderstield. OTHER SPORT.

Andrew Longmore finds a confident team leader in good spirits

. Nicholls matches ambition with ability

Paul Nicholls looked a little the worse for wear, something to something to do with the stable Christmas party and a flirtation with the karaoke machine, but his enthusiasm on a grey morning remained undimmed. We had a good night, but, do you know, everyone was in here by 6.30 this morning," he said as the familiar hollow click of hoof on concrete heralded first lot and one by one the revellers blinked into the misty light to

begin their dawn rituals.

The sight of so many good horses provides the ideal cure for a hangover and by the time Nicholls has dispatched his frontline troops onto the gallops above the picture postcard Somerset village of Ditcheat, he was in full flow. In the tight little world of racing, the word is out that a young and gifted rival has emerged from Lorna Doone

country with an assembly of

jumping talent to match the best in the land. In only his fifth season in business, Nicholls is lying fifth in the trainers' championship and his yard hums with ambition and vigour. This is a young team moulded in the image of its confident and jovial leader. There is too much doom and gloom in racing," Nicholls said, "People should concentrate on getting

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on and enjoying it."

Nicholls has been more frustrated than most by the Christmas freeze. His horses were primed and ready for an assault on the big prizes, but one by one his hopes were thwarted by the weather or the going. The promising novice chaser. See More Business, was withdrawn from Kempton's Boxing Day meeting, but the biggest blow was the abandonment of the Weish National, for which Belmont

King was a strong favourite. Nicholls has high hopes for Belmont King, a young chaser of impeccable temperament and • unlimited whose comeback victory at Chepstow, after nearly two years away with a leg injury,



Nicholls keeps a watchful eye on his string during morning exercise on his scenic Somerset gallops. Photograph: David Howells

Nicholls said, was the most satisfying of his career, a reward for the patience of Mrs Billie Bond, the 72-year-old owner, and an emphatic confirmation of his own relaxed yet rhythmic training methods. Few horses leave Nicholls's yard for a gentle

day out.
"I worked it out when I was riding," he said. "It was in-credible the number of horses who were unfit. Pipe was winning everything because his horses were fit. I don't see the point in giving horses a run just for the sake of it. I want to send them out first time fit enough to win, but

with room for improvement.

Nichalls would be the first to admit that his timing has been fortunate. An advertisement in The Sporting Life at the end of 1991 coincided with the end of his perennial battle against weight as a National Hunt jockey. This brought him to Manor Farm Stables, owned by Paul Barber, a dairy farmer, one of whose two ambitions - to milk 1,000 cows and win the Gold Cup - matched his own. "As soon as I saw the

The first horse they bought was See More Indians, a highly talented young chaser, vhose life was cut short. Nich-

gailops I was up here like a shot," he recalled. "I couldn't

2.05 EAST WIDLANDS ELECTRICITY LINCOLN FILLIES HANDICAP

FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

BETTRICE 7-2 Ball-Pay, 4-1 Maps Got 5-1 Chasestown Flyer, 7-1 Royal Rouletta, 8-1 Dazmond Eyre State Of Gota. Hoh Down, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

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506- 85-8 70 (R Rabinson W Johnston 9-7 1 Viscour 94
07- PRICHINGHA 33 (CD.6) (T Wells) D Monte 9-7 A Claft 92
2530- GOING FOR BROKE 13 (Dummington 8 Stem) P Hacken 9-4 5 Domine 69
01025- SKELTON SOMPHSIGN 37 (5) (6 Saley) if Herinancart 9-2 D Critistes (5) 93
0461- FAST SPBI 5 (C.6) (E Such) T Boson 9-1 (Sea) A Culture 98

BETTING: 5-2 Fast Spin, 7-2 Pinchlacha, 4-1 As-ls. 5-1 Going For Broke 6-1 Sketon Soverago, 7-1 March Managold

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MARSH MARIGOLD hest after the variations of the state of

COURSE SPECIALISTS

JOCKEYS

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9th of 16 to Shortann in handicap bere (Rt. AW).

2.40 THINIONS & DRINKING HANDICAP (\$2,726: 2m) (9 runners)

3.10 MORNING CALL SELLING STAKES

Y-O: £2,189: 1m) (11 numers)

3.40 NEW YEAR HANDICAP

(3-Y-0: £2,752: 1m) (6 runners)

olis's first winner as a trainer, Olveston, on December 23, 1991, was owned by his parents. From there, the chart has shown a steady progression: ten winners in his first season, then 20, 53 last year and already 35 this season, the majority guided home by the champion, Tony McCoy, whose own drive has fused perfectly with Nicholis's.

"As soon as I saw him I thought: 'this boy's good'. He was just like Dunwoody. He's good at schooling, he's very etermined and he's good on the racetrack. He is in a different league from me as a

At the age of 34, Nicholls

has already defied convention by making an effortless leap into the top ranks of trainers. "I've got a super yard, super owners, super horses, super staff. I'm much more relaxed about it now and I'm doing the job better. Sometimes in those early days, I was trying too hard. I said I would give it five vears, but I never thought I would fail. I've always wanted

Nicholls has been in the game long enough to beware complacency, but the future looks bright and not just because all 52 boxes in the vard are full and plans to expand to 75 are already in

to be a trainer and I'm very

hand. Belmont King is being aimed for the Grand National. but Nicholls has backed him each-way at 50-1 for the Gold

People are always writing about the 'ever ambitious Paul Nicholls' and stuff like that. But you've got to be ambitious. If you train with a positive attitude, your horses will have a positive arritude."

Meanwhile. Belmont King has more important duties, carrying Nicholls's pregnant wife. Bridget, safely through morning gallops. The baby is due in June, adding to the unmistakable air of expectancy hanging over the Nicholls

Elimination of suspects points to White Willow

By RICHARD EVANS. RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE best way to find the winner of a race is first to identify the losers - and that task is often easier on the allweather because of the high percentage of horses who never trouble the judge.

At Southwell this afternoon, the Thinking & Drinking Handicap (2.40) is a case where the process of elimination points backers in the right direction. Starting from the bottom of the handicap in this moderate contest over two miles. What Jim Wants is a maiden after 15 starts, having his first run on Fibresand and first race for 72 days.

Hunning Ground won five races on turf in 1993 but has never run at Southwell and has been off the course for 410 days. Record Lover won

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: WHITE WILLOW (2.40 Southwell) Next Best: Standown (12.35 Southwell)

a weakly contested amateur riders' race over course and distance a year ago but is out of form and without a run for eight weeks. Elite Bliss. another maiden, did produce an improved effort when stepped up in trip last time and is weighted to reverse form with the winner, Golden Hadeer, but this

is a bener class race. Sharp Command is moderate and ran a stinker last time: Master Foodbroker is lightly raced and untrustworthy while Tee Tee Too. far from sure to see out this trip, is harshly weighted for a horse who has not won since 1994. All of which leaves White Willow.

The eight-year-old was claimed out of Mary Reveley's yard after comfortably winning a hurdle race at Newcastle just 16 days ago

- so he should be fit. Just as important, he defied a big weight in a handicap on his unly start at Southwell in 1994 and recorded a performance a stone better than any of his rivals have achieved. White Willow, the mount of Seb Sanders, should be able to run his apponents into the ground.

High Premium, the winner of five races last year including three on the allweather, is likely to start favourite for the first and more competitive division of the Resolution Claiming Stakes (12.35). However, the jough nine-year-old is arguably hest over a mile at Southwell and may just lack the necessary pace here.

In contrast. Standown has looked as though a return to seven furlongs would suit in his two most recent runs, notably when staying on at Wolverhampton 13 days ago. He could

offer some value.
The New Year Handicap (3.40) hardly oozes quality and is best judged by the comments of David Barron after he sent out Fast Spin to win a seller at Southwell five days ago. "He's a bad horse running in a had race." he Fast Spin is not without a

chance of following up in a mediocre finale hut may have to give best to As-Is, who is representing the Mark Johnston - Jason Weaver combination. He should appreciate this mile trip on his all-weather debut.

Ashley Bealby, South-well's clerk of the course, expects no problems for today's programme despite almost six inches of snow having fallen on the track during the last 24 hours. "We have had five to six inches of snow and the prospects should be fine as long as there is no heavy snow overnight," he said yesterday. "The track is

THUNDERER 12.35 ELTON LEDGER (nep): 2.05 Belinda Blue 1.05 Hever Golf Eagle 1.35 Chilibang Beng 3.40 Sketton Sovereign The Times Private Henoloopper's top rating: 3.10 INDIAN RAPTURE

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		O- SALLY ARMSTRONG 13 (Tapilo Lee & Cain) C Thursdon 4-8-2 D McKeown 7
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Musselburgh holds strongest hopes

MUSSELBURGH on Saturday looks the most likely venue for a resumption of the jumping programme. Turf racing has not taken place in Britain since the Scottish track's card last Friday and prospects for the remainder of this week

Mark Kershaw, the course manager at Musselburgh, reported yesterday: "I would not put it as strongly as to say it is promising, but, though we have had a slight frost and a dusting of snow. nothing has got into the ground. It looks like it will be cold, but not severe, so there must be a chance."

The all-weather card at Southwell is the only surviving fixture today. The scheduled jumps meetings at Cheltenham, Catterick, Exeter, Leicester, Windsor and Uttoxeter had all been called off by noon yesterday.

Tomorrow's cards at Avr and Market Rasen have also fallen. "Siberian weather conditions look like staying until the SANDOWN: party frozen (m:oection today) weekend at least." Charlie Moore, the WARWICK: partly trozen (respection today)

clerk of the course at Market Rasen, said. At Avr. a spokesman said after a 3.00pm inspection yesterday: "The temperature has not risen above zero all day

On Friday, the jumps meetings at Lingfield, Sedgefield and Towcester all report frost and snow. Local forecasts suggest there is little chance of a thaw. Matters look no better on Saturday.

PROSPECTS

TOMORROW'S MEETING\$ LINGFIELD PARK; all-weather meeting AYR: abandoned MARKET RASEN: abandoned

FRIDAY UNGFIELD PARK, trozen SEDGEFIELD: liost and snow SOUTHWELL: all-weather meeting

SATURDAY

The cards at Haydock and Sandown also look likely to fall. Andrew Cooper, the clerk of the course at Sandown, said yesterday: "The temperature has left parts of the course fruzen and it would have been sufficient to stop us racing today, although you would not describe

the course as frozen. "We have had a dusting of snow: nothing too serious, but there will be more snow showers around tonight. It is too early to be sure, but you would have to say that the chance of racing on Saturday must be pretty slim."

Duhlin Flyer, Unguided Missile, Collier Bay and Dato Star figure among the entries at Haydock. Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, reported: "We are freezing at the moment. The forecast is

not too good and I am not hopeful." Warwick, whose meeting yesterday was abandoned, will need a rapid thaw to race on Saturday. "I wouldn't be telling people to get their racing boots on," a spokesman said,

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Southwe 12.35 Standown 1.35 Parellie 2.05 Time Clash 3.10 Royal Roulette, Hol

BLINKERS

Lingfield Park

Going: standard Going standard

12.55 (Im. 5); I. AABAYEL (Archon)
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(Derren Wittsmes, 3-1 y-lev). 3. More Than
You Khow (Emity Joyce, 12-1). KLSD
RAN, 3-1 y-lev (Barnes Mystope). (30)
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(3h), 33 Cusens Fancy. 9 (an. 14). 134
(3h), 13 Cusens Fancy. 9 (an. 14). 134
(3h), 13 P. Evans at Westproof Total
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CSF £16 44 Trica:J £123 05.
1.25 (6)] 1, JUST LOUI (I C Sweeney 11-4) 2, Rock To The Top (A Moths 13-2), 3, Eager To Please (Dane O Nett 10-1) ALSO RAN 6-5 (av Kroulen Lad Ish), 10 Advance Repro (6th) Heavenly Miss (4th), 5 ran NR Windborn 11-1, 11-4) 41, 61 W G M Turner at Snertone 2560, £280 £450 DF £1250.
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Potand 5-2 tax: 2. Cournless Times (Cane C Next 5-1) 3 Green Boulevard in Roberts 7-2, ALSC RAN 100-30 (Cooking 15th, 7-2 Englann Parks (4th) 13 Ehe's Stadtic (5th) 6 ran 4/ sh hd. 11 13 3. 1 Thoughton at Spoom Total 14 10 51 90 51 80, DF 29 00 CSF-216 C5

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

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2.25 5f, 1 MiSTER RAIDER (A Daly,
2.15 5f, 1 MiSTER RAIDER (A Daly,
4.11 2 Sihafi (A Clark, 9-2) 3 Squire
Comie © Holland, 6-1), ALSO RAN 7-2
fa: Cheeks, Chapps, 4 Colston-C 8
Examera (4th) Oscilights Gift (u), 16
Windows Boy (5th) 20 Bright Paragon
(6th) 33 Dancing Jack (10 ran kl, nk, 8)
rk, 65 E Wheeler at Pangbourne, Tote(9-40 E 60 92-30 52-80 DF 536-30,
Tips 560-30, CSF 538-07 Tribasi,
5163-28
2.55 (tim 2), 1 ADAMTON (Martin Driver)

Joy (6th), 33 Great Bear 9 ran, 114, 21, 15), 41, 54, Mrs J Cecil at Newmerker Tole £4,50, £1,40, £2,60, £3,70, DF, £31,10 Tno £166.10 CSF £46.06 Thoast £342.13

2.54: 13
3.25 (7) 1. RIVER SEINE (S. Sanders
5-2; 2. Gold Lance (D. Holand; 11-4; 3;
Megazine Gap (Amanda Sanders, 4-1;
ALSO RAN 5-2 tay Evening In Parc 14th)
9 Jareer Do (5th), 12 Gracous Getclo,
Hightide, Square Mile Miss (6th), 16
Snermood, 3: Logie Perl Lad 10 ran
144, rk, 25-1, 41, rk, 5 knight at Taumon
Tote E4 80; F1 70, E1 30 (23 60) DF
\$10.10. Trio: E29 00; CSF E19 37 Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,847,38 carried forward to Southwell today). Placepot £121.10

☐ Catterick and Fontwell Park abandoned because of snow and

RACELINE SOUTHWELL 101 201 IRISH G'HOUNDS 122 222 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

Duty to homeless asylum seeker

Regina v Kensington and Chelsea Royal London Borough Council, Ex parte

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown. Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Hobbouse **Judgment December 5**

The statutory duty owed to an asylum seeker who was hon in priority need and who did not become homeless intentionally was to secure suitable temporary accommodation for such period as an applicant was an asylum

The Court of Appeal so state allowing an appeal by the ap-plicant. Irina Korneva, from the order of Mr Roger Henderson QC, who, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division on September 23, 1996, had dismissed her application for judicial review of a decision of Kensington and Council, as local housing au-thority, that the temporary accommodation provided need not be

applicant: Miss Kate Astaniotis for the council.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON

BROWN said that the appeal raised a point affecting hundreds of homeless or ill housed asylum seekers. The point was whether, and if so in what way, homeless asylum seekers applying for accommodation under Part III of the Housing Act 1985 were worse off than non-asylum seeking

Did an asylum seeker's applica-tion have to be processed like any other homelessness application so that, if he or she was in priority need and did not become homeless ntionally, the council was obliged to secure that suitable under sections 65 and 69(1) of the

The council argued below, and the judge had held that asylum seekers were not so entitled; rather the council might properly delay reaching its decision under section 62, in the meantime discharging merely its interim duty under

That the council might do by providing accommodation which, albeit it was reasonable for the applicant to occupy having regard to the general circumstances prevailing in relation to the coun-cil's housing, need not be suitable accommodation such as had m be charged its final duty under sec-

Section 4 of the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 affected all asylum seekers whose applications for Part 111 accommodation were made after July 26. 1993, provided only that those applying for asylum on or after February 5 did so at the time of, and not after arrival in the United Kingdom: they were otherwise precluded from access to Part III accommodation by the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996.

it was clear that the council accepted the applicant's applica-tion as one falling under section 4(3) of the 1993 Act. What then was the meaning and effect of the provision section 4(3)(b) that "any need of [an asylum seeker] for accommodation shall be regarded as temporary only? That was the question at the heart of the appeal. Following the decision of the House of Lords in R v Brent

London Borough Council, Exparte Awaa [1996] i AC 55, whether an applicant for Part III housing was an asylum seeker or not, the section 65 duty could in any event be satisfied by the

I The express reference in para-graph 2 to the requirement that the authority had to include in the inquiries that it was required to make under section 62 the further inquiries special to asylum seek-ers; nothing there acquitting them of the need ever to undertake some of the section 62 inquiries. 2 The express reference in both paragraphs 2 and 3 to the council being satisfied whether a duty was owed to secure accommodation for

followed that nothing in Austa

supported the council's position in

the present appeal. The council's

was required only to notify her of

that, being acquitted by paragraph 3(4) of the need to give in addition a

Because a section 64 notice

expressly encompassed notifica-tion of the authority's decision on, inter alia, intentionality. Par-

liament by the Schedule could, the

argument ran, he seem to have

been indicating its intention that in

the case of asylum seekers, hous-

ing authorities did not need to

address that issue and so did not

need ever to complete their section

The argument, although in-genious, to his Lordship's mind

foundered not least upon:

appeared wholly impossible. It

section 64 notice.

the applicant; such satisfaction section 65 final duty but not to the section 65 final duty but not to the section 63 interim duty which arose simply at the "reason to believe" cross

3 The absurdity of supposing that Parliament would seek to disapply the requirement that accome tion to be provided to asylum seekers should be suitable in so obscure and elliptical a fashion. In his Lordship's judgment all that paragraphs 2 and 3 provided for year the necessary elastical

sections 62 and 64 of the 1985 Act to encompass the additional inquiries which would need to be made in the case of asylum seekers. Paragraph 4 fulfilled the same function with regard to

asylum seekers fell to be dealt with essentially like any other ap-plicants for housing under Part III of the 1985 Act. His Lordship would grant the applicant the relief Lord Justice Peter Gibson gave a

concurring judgment and Lord Justice Hobbouse agreed with Solicitors: J. C. Gorringe & Co. Stockwell; Mr A. G. Phillips,

Seeking rights of audience

DvS (Rights of Audience) Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Waite and Lord Justice Waller

argument was that under para-graph 2 of Schedule 1 to the 1993 Judgment December 18 Where a person sought rights of audience under sections 17, 18 and Act it was required only to reach the point of determining whether it 28 of the Courts and Legal Services owed the applicant the interim duty of housing her under section 63, and that under puragraph 3 it Act 1990 to conduct proceedings on behalf of a lingant in person the court should, in conformity with the spirit of the Act, grant that an application only in exceptional

> The Court of Appeal so stated, refusing an application by Dr Pelling for rights of audience to reang for rights of audience his application for leave to appeal from Judge Tyrer, sitting at Milton Keynes County Court, who had, inter alia, enjoined him from entering the house he had shared with S and their children pending the outcome of her application for transfer of the tenancy into her sole name under section 15 of and Schedule 1 to the Children Act

Miss Pamela Scriven, QC and Mr David Boyd for S; D in person. THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS referred to the written reasoned request for rights of audience made by Dr Pelling, to his considerable experience in cases of the present kind, and to Chauhan v Chauhan (unreported, October 26, 1994, CA (Civ Div)

Transcript No (230) where the Court of Appeal had previously considered the question.

His Lordship analysed Chauhan where Dr Pelling had also applied for an order under section 28(2)(c) of the 1990 Act that he should be allowed to provide legal services and conduct the lifigation for the appellant who appeared in person.

Having referred to sections 17 and 18 of the 1990 Act Lord Justice Neill had there set out Dr Pelling's arguments in support of his application: that the appellant needed skilled assistance for the proper conduct of his appeal; that he did not wish to apply for legal aid: that Dr Pelling could provide satisfactory legal services at a cheaper rate, calculated to be cheaper rate, calculated to be about a tenth of the charges made by a solicitor; and that unless authorised by the court Dr Pelling could not charge for any litigation

ad referred to the document then drawn to the court's attention by Dr Pelling which he provided for people willing to take advan-tage of his services and to his advertising material. He had stressed that in the

documentation he made it clear he did not have professional indemmity insurance and was not entitled to rights of audience or so conduct by the court under the 1990 Act. He had also submitted that one of the statutory objectives was the provision of new and better ways of providing services: that if he were to act there would be greater

expedition and efficiency. He had further made it clear in that case, he contemplated making similar applications in other cases and making a career of providing legal services at a frac-

tion of the cost of a solicitor.

Those arguments had been reted and the application refused. His Lordship said that Dr Pelling apparently the chalrman of a registered charity: East London Pamilies Need Fathers, had set out his submissions in support of his application in correspondence both to himself

and to the court office Dr Pelling said that, inter alia. he had appeared for the appellant in the court below; that he had In Chaukan Lord Instice Neill entered the case because of his position in a society which specialised in fathers' rights and provided legal advice and assistance to its members; that he had the requisite knowledge and experience; and that Parliament d favoured persons with specialist knowledge acting for others in certain family law matters. His Lordship said that a direc-

erable arguments which could be advanced to the effect that the law as it presently existed was not appropriate and should be relaxed in some way. However, it had not been re-

laxed. The Act governed the situstion: it gave the court a discretion but made it clear by its terms that the discretion was to be exercised only in exceptional circumstances Dr Pelling was conducting assistance in the litigation process which was out of accord with the

Whether rights of audience were to be granted was a matter for the court's responsibility, given by Parliament and called for its careful consideration. It was not a matter for the consent of the

Those with rights of audience were subject to stringent require ments and Dr Pelling could not by pass them.

tions of the present kind by Dr Pelling or others in his position they should pause long before exercising its discretion in their favour. Although considered individually the collective effect would be to by-pass the Act. He would refuse the application.

Lord Justice Waite and Lord Justice Waller agreed. Solicitors: Daniel & Harris.

Power to agree highway works

County Council. Ex parte Powergen plc Before Mr Justice Forbes

Hudement November 201 A highway authority's discretion to tive developer to execute highway works was limited in a situation where the proposed works formed a detailed and related part of the planning application for which consent had already been

The matters remaining would be relatively minor and a proper exercise of the discretion would not embrace a further and separate reconsideration of the benefit to the nublic of such works solely by reference to the same reasons already determined in the plan-

ning process.

Mr Justice Forbes so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when alkwing an application for judicial review by Powergen ple against a refusal by Warwickshire County Council to enter into an agreement under section 278 of the Highways Act 1980, as substituted by section 23 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991, in respect of proposed the council on June 15 and August

in 1994 Powergen applied to the district council for planning per-mission to develop a site including as local planning authority con-suited the county council as local highway authority about the road plans and subsequently refused planning permission.

Following an appeal, the sec-retary of state's inspector granted conditional outline planning per-mission. To fulfil the condition Powergen had to carry out high-way works which required an agreement under section 278 of the Act with the highway

Mr William Hicks, QC and Mr Russell Harris for Powergen; Mr Michael Supperstone, QC and Mr Tinothy Pitt-Payne for the council.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that Mr Hicks was right in his submission that a highway authority's discretion to enter an agreement was not an unlimited discretion in every case, although his Lordship was doubtful whether it was correct to describe the discretion generally as a limited

In his Lordship's view, the extent to which the discretion could be described as limited would depend

His Lordship accepted that section 278 had to be interpreted in the overall legislative system for the through the planning process.

Where the benefit to the public of and related aspect of the applica-tion for which planning consent had been properly obtained, then

remaining to be considered by the authority in the proper exercise of its discretion were likely

enter the agreement was unlawful and Wednesbury unreasonable.

agreement was sought had been fully considered and determined in the planning process, because the highway works formed a detailed the highway authority's discretion whether to enter the agreement would necessarily be somewhat

The proper exercise of that discretion would not embrace a further and separate reconsider-ation of the benefit to the public of the highway works in question solely by reference to the same reasons as those already considered and determined in the plan-

mission that if section 278 were hus interpreted, there was no need for either the secretary of state or the local planning authority to be given an express power to direct the highway authority to enter into section 278 agreement in such

Solicitors: Wragge & Co. Birmingham: Mr David Carter.

In re T (Minors) (Termination of contact: Discharge of

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Holman [Judgment November 2]

On an application to discharge an order, made under section 34(4) of the Children Act 1989, authorising a local authority to terminate contact between the children in their cure and the parents, the court should have two main interlocking considerations.
First, the extent to which circum-

stances had changed from when the order was originally made and. second, bearing those changes in mind, the extent to which it was appropriate to reinvestigate the central question whether contact should be terminated. The greater the apparent change in circum-stances, the more intensively the court would be prepared to re-consider the desirability of leaving e section 34(4) order in place. The Court of Appeal so stated

allowing in part an appeal by the mother from the refusal by Judge Michael Baker, in Chichester County Court on April 10, 1996, of her application to discharge a section 34(4) order which he had

Terminating children's contact with parents making care orders in respect of her children.

Section 34 provides: "(4) On an application made by the authority or the child, the court may make an order authorising the authority the child and any person who is . . .

Mr Roderic Wood, QC and Mrs Diane Barnett for the mother; Mr J. Michael Liebrecht for the local authority; Mr Stephen W. S. Cobb for the guardian ad litem; the inther did not appear and was not

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that coursel for the mother sought to criticise the judge's approach.

He submitted that the section

34(4) order should never have been made in the first place: the local authority's care plans were not sufficiently advanced at that stage to justify such an order. In the result, he contended, the judge ought to have revoked it when the opportunity arose on the mother's

in his Lordship's view, a section 34(4) order should not be made (a) while there remained a possibility of rehabilitation of the child with merely against the possibility that circumstances might change in such a way as to make termination original orders. of contact desirable. For an order to be justified, a probable need to

able and not too remote. On that approach, his Lordship would regard the orders made by the judge in December 1994 as having been justifiable. Given that the above was the

terminate confact must be foresec-

correct approach to the making of a section 34(4) order, in what circumstances should it be discharged? More particularly, what, if any, inhibitions were there on a person's entitlement to seek such discharge?

must be considered by the court with the child's welfare in mind as the paramount consideration, save only in the very limited circum-stances provided for by section 91(17) when the court's leave was

That said, it was plain that there must be demonstrable some mabewteen the making of the section 34(4) order and the application to discharge it. The courts were obviously entitled to screen out

than disguised appeals against the

His Lordship's conclusion was that the court should initially have erations in mind: first, the extent to which circumstances had changed from when the order was originally made and second, bearing

those changes in mind, the extent to which it now seemed appro-The court should ask itself: where on the specrum of proce-dure should that particular application be pisced? Clearly the greater the apparent change in

circumstances, the more inten-sively would the court be prepared to reconsider the desirability of leaving the section 34(4) order In the present case, on the facts. his Lordship would dismiss the appeal so far as it concerned one of

the children but would allow the appeal and discharge the section 34(4) order in respect of the other Mr Justice Holman agreed. Solicitors: Williams Macdougal

& Campbell, Worthing; Mr E. M. Holdsworth, Chicester, Bennett

Chancery Division

Chancery Division

Investment company within Act

Medway Housing Society Before Mr Justice Lightman Judgment December 19

A housing association, registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965, was an investment company within the meaning Corneration Taxas Act 1988 and as uch was entitled for eprporation tax terrores to carry forward

excess charges on income. Mr Justice Lightman so held in a reserved judgment in the Chan-cers Dresson dismissing an arof originating motion from the determination of a special commis signer (Dr.J. F. Avery Jones) that and allowed an appeal by the Medway Housing Society Ltd against an assessment to corporation tax on its profits for the period to March 31, 1994, and a determincured to the tax under section 41A. of the Taxes Management Act

Section 130 of the 1988 Act privities: "... 'Investment com-pany' means any company whose husiness consists wholly or mainly the principal part of whose meame Mr Timothy Breman for the

Before Mr Justice Kirkwood

An extreme phobia against needles

amounted to an involuntary compulsion sufficient to disable a

patient from having the relevant

mental competence to make treat-

ment decisions and accordingly it

was in the patient's best interests

that the court should make a

declaration that she should receive

the treatment that her medical

Mr Justice Kirkwood so held in

the Family Division when making

as the lawfulness of a medical

procedure to which the patient had

unable to give her consent, namely

injection before being delivered of

her child by emergency operation

Mr Robert Francis, QC, for the applicant; Mr Michael Hinch-chile, solicitor, as amicus curiae.

MR JUSTICE KIRKWOOD

said that the severe phobia about

needles put L's health, and that of

her unborn child, in jeopardy.

It was accepted that L wished to

uch a aversion that she was

advisers were advocating

Hudgment December [3]

Crown; Mr Kevin Prosser, QC, for the housing society.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that the society was formed as an industrial and provident society to acquire the housing stock of Rochester upon Medway City Council In 1990 it purchased, with banks, the council's housing stock of 8,031 units for £77 millio Thereafter it continued the coun-

cil's housing policy but on more efficient lines with financing from the private sector, ensuring a result in the recomment of the loans The question was whether the

society was entitled to deduct and carry forward for deduction purposes the expenses of management, a term that included salaries and interest on borrowing, in computing its profits for corporation tax. It was only so entitled if it fell within the section 130 definition of an investment company.

It was common ground that the word "making" included "holding", that the society was a company and that the principal part of its income was derived from its housing portfolio. The Issue was whether its business constitute health or mainly in the consisted wholly or mainly in the

any medical procedure, including

delivery by emergency caesarian

except for penetration of her skin

with a needle while she was

Medically, it was highly in-

Tameside and Glossop Acute

Services Trust v C. H. ([1990] 1 FLR

7621 established that it was lawful

to provide treatment necessary to

save life and which was in the

patient's best interest where that

patient was unable to commu-

nicate a decision through lack of

Here the extreme needle phobia

amounted to an affliction of a

pelled L against medical advice with such force that her own life

was imperilled and she was ren-

dered incapable of weighing relevant treatment in the balance to

make a choice to the extent that she

lacked the relevant mental com-

Solicitors: Le Brasseur J. Tickle: Official Solicitor.

mental competence.

advisable to administer an-

aesthetic by any other method.

Needles phobia put

child in danger

In re L (Patient: Non-consen- be safely delivered of her baby and

Did the housing portfolio in the hands of the society constitute an

2 Was the business of the society that of making investments? The term "investment" meant the laying out of moneys in anticipation of a profitable capital or income return. The society was not run to break even: the housing

> ncome return. If the society had been a commercial company there could be no doubt that the portfolio would constitute an investment and its business would be that of making or holding investments No different conclusison was to be reached because the society's object were set out in its rules. Those rules made clear that the society's objects were to provide housing to those in need at rems they could afford. That was en-

portfolio was intended over time to

produce a profitable capital and

purchasing property with a view in making a profitable return on its ses and lettings. On principle the purpose and nature of the business of the society was that of holding investment in the form of the housing partfolio and none the less so bec

Devon County Council v B

Parriett Ruttell

Children Act 1989.

under the care plan.

the guardian ad litem.

(Judgment December 11)

Before Sir Stephen Brown, President, Lord Justice Pill and Sir

Any jurisdiction the county court

had derived solely from statute. It had no inherent jurisdiction of its

own and therefore was not able to

grant an injunction in care

The Court of Appeal so held

when, inter alia, allowing the

appeal by a mother against the

order of Judge Wigmore in Plym-

outh County Court on January II. 1996 when, in support of a care

order, he granted an injunction which purported to prevent the mother from entering the town in

which the child was then living

Mr George Meredith for the

local authority; Mr Richard Hickmet for the mother; Mr

Lawrence Deegan for the father,

THE PRESIDENT SER THAT THE

local authority had applied to the county court judge for the injunc-

tion under the court's inheren

However D v D (County court

Mr Michael Melville-Shreeve for

tirely consistent with the society

social purpose of providing afford-

able housing.
The authorities justified and supported that conclusion. In nining what was the business of a company for the purposes of section 130 it was necessary to have regard to the quality, purpos and nature of the company and its activities and that included the full circumstances in which the relevant assets were acquired and ed, including the objects clause in the memorandum of

on of a taxpayer and the

It was relevant to have regard to the taxpayer at the relevant date, but if those were viewed without se were viewed without regard to its past history or future plans they might give only a partial and incomplete picture. The critical question was whether the holding of assets to produce a profitable return was merely incidental to the carrying on of some other business or the very business carried on by the

very business of the society was the

jurisdiction: Injunctions) (1993) 2 FLR 802) had established that the

county court had no inherent

harischiction in relation to the

energise of statutory powers in children's cases nor did it have

jurisdiction under either the Adop-

tion Act 1976 or the Children Act

The provision of section 100(3) of

rly stated that "no application

the 1989 Act had not been drawn to the judge's attention but that

for any exercise of the court's inherent jurisdiction with respect

to children may be made by a local

authority unless the authority have

That meant the High Court and here no leave had been obtained.

Confusion had arisen with cus-

tody cases pre-dating the 1989 Act where the county court did have

statutory powers to grant an injunction for the protection of the

child but these were not private

law proceedings. Accordingly the injunction would be set aside and

Lord Justice Pill and Sir Patrick

Solicitors: Mr Roger Gash, Exe-ter: Wolferstam, Plymouth; Stan-ton & Walker, Chesterfield: Gill

the appeal allowed.

Russell agreed.

objects of a society such as the instant one as revealed in its rules.

provision of housing at a return below the market return, but non the less a return producing Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland

Limit to powers of

county court

Before Mr Justice Ferris Lludgment December (6) The benefits under a persion policy effected by a bankrupt before his bankruptcy but which became payable after his discharge did not amount to property which was acquired after the

bankruptcy. Those benefits were choses in ction which comprised property belonging to the bankrupt at the commencement of the bankrupacy and vested in the trustee bankruptcy by virtue of section 306 of the Insolvency Act 1986. They were therefore payable to the trustee in bankruptcy and not to the discharged bankrupt himself. Mr Justice Ferris so held in the Bankrupus Court of the Chancery Division on the application of Mr Michael Albert Pointer, the trustee

in bankruptcy of Mr Ivan Aubrey Landau in regard to a pension policy with the National Provident anution (NPI). Miss Sandra Bristoll for Mr Pointer: Mr Guy Newey as amicus carrae: Mr Landau did not appear

MR JUSTICE FERRIS said that 9, 1939 and on April 26, 1952 he flected with NPI a policy in terms which had been approved by the Inland Revenue pursuant to sec-tion 226 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. The policy was issued in consid-

eration of monthly premiums pay-able until January 1999 and provided for the payment to Mr Landau on his survival to his seventieth birthday of an annuity of E4,424 with profits during the In 1989 Mr Landau converted

the policy into a fully paid policy meter which up further bee his right to alter the date on which the annuity would become payable by stipulating that that would be his sixty-fifth birthday instead of On May 3, 1990 a bankrupter

order was made in respect of Mr Landau and in December 1990 Mr Pointer was appointed his trustee bankruptcy. The liabilities in hankruptcy exceeded £250,000, 2 substantial part of which re-กรากคริ เมกระที่รถิเคล in May 1993 Mr Landau was discharged from bankruptcy pursuant to section 279 of the 1996

Act. That discharge did not have any effect on the functions of the trustee in bankruptcy or the opera-tion of the bankruptcy legislation in relation to Mr Landau's estate After he attained the age of 65 in 1994 Mr Landau sought to obtain the benefits payable under the policy. NPI communicated with Mr Pointer seeking his confirma-tion that he had no objection to

Pension benefits for trustee

some consideration and ultimately contended that he was entitled to annuity and that he and not Mr Landau was entitled to exercise the

rights of the annultant. The basis of that contention was that the policy became vested in the tee in bankruptcy as part of Mr Landau's estate pursuant to section 306 of the 1986 Act. Mr Landau resisted that conten-

tion. NPI generally supported Mr Pointer's view and paid to him the lump sum of £11,549. The annuity remained unpaid pending the outcome of the court proceedings. As a matter of classification Mr. andou's bundle of contractua rights under the policy constituted a chose in action and it had that

character at the time of the On the face of it therefore it fell under the definition of property and the fact that at the cor ment of the bankruptcy nothing was immediately payable under was immediately payable under the policy did not after that in any

If it were right to regard the olicy not as property belonging to Mr Landau at the commencer of his bankruptcy but as "property which has been acquired by ... the bankrupt since the commence-ment of the bankruptcy" then it would not have vested in Mr would not have vested in Mr Pointer but would be after acquired property which could only be obtained for Mr Landau's estate by means of a claim under section

On that view of the nature of the policy it would only have been acquired by Mr Landau when he attained the age of 65 and by that time he had been discharged from bonkruptcy and it was no longer markly for Mr Britane to drive possible for Mr Pointer to claim. In his Lordship's judgment how-ever, it was imposible to take that view of Mr Landau's interest in the policy. At the commencement of his bankruptcy he had a present

payments under the policy in the future. That was an immediate chose in

action. Mr Landau had in relation to the policy, the same chose in action on the date of the bank-ruptcy order as he had when he attained the age of 65 and that latter event did not result in anything being acquired by or devolving upon him.

Was the policy or the annuity payable under it caught by section 310 of the 1986 Act? If the benefit of the policy or the annuity was the income of the bankrupt for the purposes of section 310(7), then it could only be claimed by Mr Pointer from Mr Landau's estate by means of an income payments order under section 310(1), but section 310(6) prevented such an

order being made now, since the bankruptcy had been discharged. His Lordship said that on the ordinary meaning of the language used in section 310 he would have no doubt that the section had no application to property or income which vested in the trustee under

Property or income which so vested could not, on the face of it. be a "payment in the nature of income which is from time to time made to the bankrupt or which he from time to time becomes entitled", because it ought to be paid to the trustee and only the trustee was entitled to it. Correspondingly the trustee had no need to obtain any order for the

purpose of getting such income into the bankrupt's estate, for it would be payable to the trustee automatically by virtue of the vesting.

Doubt was introduced only by

reason of the fact that the statutory predecessor of section 310 of the 1986 Act, which was section 51(2) of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, and the equivalent provisions of earlier bankruptcy statutes were held to apply both to property which apply both to property which vested in the trustee and to property which did not so vest. The question was whether the

reform of the law of insolvency by the Insolvency Acts of 1985 and 1986 had changed that. The 1985 Act followed upon, although it did not in all respects adopt, the recommendations of the Cork Committee Report of the Review Committee on Insolvence Law and Practice (Cmnd No 8558). The vesting provisions of the

1914 Act were not commented upon by the committee but it did, however, recommend an important change in respect of the vesting of after acquired property. The result was that by stabute the bankrupt's estate was now defined in a way which confined it to property belonging to or vested in the bankrupt at the commencement of the bankruptcy and cer-tain other property which was to be treated as comprised in the bankrupt's estate. His Lordship concluded that the

lead him to depart from the conclusion which he would otherwise reach as to the stone of sertion. Therefore the right to payment of the annuity payable under the policy vested in Mr Pointer as part of Mr Landau's estate on his appointment as the part of the company of appointment as trustee in bankruptcy and section 310 had no application to it when it became

intellectual freight imported by

payable The annuity was therefore payable to Mr Pointer as part of Mr Landau's estate and not to Mr Landau himself. After the right to receive the annuity became vested in him. Mr Pointer ws the only person entitled to exercise the options conferred by the policy as

the annuitant. It followed that Mr Pointer was entitled to commute part of the amusity for a lump sum, as he had done, and that lump sum was part of Mr Landau's estate just as the commuted part of the annuity would have been if it had been payable as the annuity.

Solicitors: Pothecary & Barratt; right to compel NPI to make Court's power to assess

Fisk and Associates and Another

In a case involving concurrent and several claims where the plaintill accepted a sum of money paid into court by one defendant and pur sued the case against the second consider and assess the claim itself in the absence of an

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice McCowan, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice

ment in favour of the plaintiff for

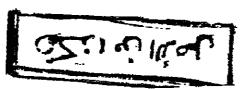
LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said that the judge had relied on Townsend v Stone Toms & Partners (a Firm) ((1984) 27 BLR 26) to establish, inter alia, that it was not necessary to have evidence

to put a value on the claim. In his Lordship's judgment, the court in Townsend was clearly contemplating that there should be a proper assessment of the true value of the plaintiff's claim, based SO STORMER. Where there had not been any

apportionment under Order 22, rule I(5) of the Rules of the Supreme Court and no material provided by the plaintiff to prove its claim, it was for the court to consider and assess the claim

مكذا من الأصل

part-paid claim Oak Tree Leisure Ltd v R. A. Hutchison) to held an November 26 when it allowed an appeal brought by the second defendant W. Fearnley and Sons (Salford) Ltd against the decision of Judge Gilliand, QC, sitting on Official Referee's business, giving judg-



THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1997 A brand new daby for just £7,445 with 2 years free insurance? Now there's something you don't see everyday nurse. THE NEW CITROËN SAXO THE CAR WITH INNER STRENGTHS

OLINE.

AR SHOWN CITROSH SUNFOCT TO THINGS OF INSURANCE OF INCLUDES TO STATUS. A SHOWN CITROSH SUNFOCT TO THINGS AND CONTINUES OF INSURANCE STREET IN AND APPLIES TO THIS YEAR OLDS: HUSBAND APPLIES TO THIS YEAR OLDS: STRAINGS SUBJECT TO THIS AND CONTINUES OF INSURENTS IN A PRICE STRAINGS OF INSURENT IN A PRICE STRAINGS OF INSURENTS IN A

A KINC-STZS healastic settled on the Duck Covernment tasky, with little Operation of the Covernment tasky, with little and the project for monetary union as the dunder of relief for another is a drain members and terror the Netherlands is used to have project for monetary union as the enditiants strangely to past the year-long enditiants strangely in the Netherlands is the part long the form the year-long enditiants strangely to past the year-long enditiants strangely in the Netherlands is the part long that the four darks the fourth and the post of the Netherlands were left receiling the last time they were at the EU helm, Charles Bremner writes from Brussels. They believe that the next six months back in the job will demand "sobriety in difficult times." The British problem hard for the Netherlands is as the U tries to harmonize time and tong the rest over the big questions that are still monther over the policy at the EU helm. Charles Bremner writes from Brussels. They believe that the next six months back in the job will demand "sobriety in difficult times." Entire province of the problem harmony of monetary union enthusiant of the Massrich treaty in the story of the comments of treaty at the EU helm. Charles the next six months back in the policy of the story of the comments of the policy of the comments of the policy of the comm

the Union for enlargement, the job would be galling enough without the imminent British election.

At the same time, the Dutch, among the more fervent of EU members, must prevent wobbling in the far more ambi-

van Mierlo, the integration-minded For-eign Minister, is playing presidential hopes in the minor key. "I would call it sobriety in difficult times." he said. Like Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign

Minister, who stepped into the British

negotiation in the weeks after the election.

If the European question is used negatively to win a maximum number of votes. it will be difficult to conclude a good treaty," he said. Like many of their

believe that it would give enough ground on such issues as the national veto to get the "Maastricht II" treaty onto paper. The job may still, they acknowledge, have to be handed over to the Luxembourg

a fiasoo when the EU soon adds new members from the old communist bloc.

Under its mercurial Gaullist President, France is causing as much anxiety among the Dutch as Britain. Jacques Chirac has been running a feud with Mr Kok over

tion will be fixed by events in France. In the climate of deep despair there over unemployment and the fate of the Gallic soul, France, it is feared, could turn against the goals of Maastricht and unhinge the partnership with Germany that drives the whole EU.



Milosevic "cannot risk renewed sanctions"

'Bucharest scenario' warning to **Milosevic**

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN BELGRADE

THE Government of President Milosevic of Serbia showed no sign of backing down to pro-democracy demonstrators in Belgrade yesterday, despite facing one of the largest crowds seen in the capital during 42 days of

Tens of thousands of antiovernment Serbs jammed the snowbound streets of Belgrade in a candlelit procession to protest against municipal election results that Mr Milosevic reversed

Riot police remained on the streets in strength and reports that the administramise with recommendations by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, recognising the victory of opposition candidates in some municipalities, were

soon discounted.

Vak Draskovic, the opposition leader, said that Mr Milosevic faced a stark choice if he continued with repressive policies. "We lopposition M Ps | would have no option but to give back all our political mandates. Milosevic would face international sanctions once more and then what would happen? There are already a million unemployed hungry Serbs here. Milosevic would face rioting across Serbia

and disaster."
Mr Draskovic added: "He can choose our option and recognise our victory, or face the Bucharest scenario" - a reference to the violent fall of the Ceauseseu regime.

Claxons, bands and whisties echoed around Beigrade, along with the sound of hundreds of chiming clocks. brought out by the demon-strators to toll symbolically

for Mr Milosevic One elderty man said: "I am protesting here, and so is my son. We are prepared to see this through until the end so that our children will not find themselves as I do now,

Iran cash funded **Bosnian election** victory, says CIA

THE CIA was reported vesterday to have evidence that Iran secretly delivered at least half a million dollars in cash to the President of Bosnia before last September's election.

The agency has discovered that the Iranians gave Alija Izetbegovic, a fellow Muslim, at least two pieces of luggage each stuffed with \$250,000 (£150.000) to help to pay for his victorious campaign, the report said.

The CLA believes that Mr Izerbegovic has been "co-opted by the Iranians" and is now "literally on their payroll", according to a classified report based on the agency's analysis of the issue obtained by the Los Angeles Times. Yet President Clinton agreed to release \$100 million in American military aid to Bosnia in November even after the CIA uncovered the Iranian payments and reported the information to his policy-makers.

the report said. Mr Clinton had delayed the aid for months because of concerns about Iranian influence in Bosnia. He let it go ahead only after deciding that the Bosnians had yielded to US demands for the withdrawal of foreign fighters sponsored by Tehran and had sacked Hasan Cengic, the Deputy Defence Minister. because of his links to Iran. arms shipments to Bosnia to reported. (Reuter)

One US official conceded that the Iranian cash payments to Mr lætbegovic "gave us pause" and he was quietly told that they were "unacceptable". But Mr Clinton decided they were insufficiently serious to halt the flow of US helicopters,

tanks, rifles and other military supplies intended to equip and train a restructured Bosnian army. Money for the pro-gramme had been pushed through Congress by Bob Dole before he resigned as Republican Senate leader to run for the presidency. Still, the Iranian influence

in Bosnia remains a vexing problem and the CIA and others in Washington are not convinced it has dwindled as much as the Clinton Administration would like to believe. According to yesterday's re-

port, electronic eavesdroppers and code-breakers at the National Security Agency report-ed as recently as September that, despite terms agreed in the Dayton peace accords, members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard remained active throughout Bosnia. The CIA reportedly blames Mr Clinton for encouraging the involvement in Bosnia of Iran, pariah nation for its sponsorship of international terrorism. He sanctioned tranian trolled territory, it

save the Government from collapse in April 1994 when Western weapons deliveries

were blocked. The CIA estimates that the Iranians smuggled in about 14.000 tonnes between then and now, at least double the estimates made public by the State Department. Iranian Revolutionary Guard fighters and trainers poured into the country, doubling their presence to 400 or more.

A senior CIA officer was quoted as telling Congress in a secret deposition that the policy of allowing arms into Bosnia was of great assistance in enabling the Iranians to dig in and establish good relations with the Bosnian Government. Americans would live to regret the policy when their troops were blown up "as they no doubt will be before this thing is over", the officer said. The report said that the

dismissal of Mr Cengic had done little to reduce Iran's influence. Officials said at least one member of the Bosnian Muslim Cabinet was an agent of the Iranian intelligence service, according to the classified documents. Sarajevo: Bosnian Serbs,

mail destined for Serb-con-



Jorge de Jesús Ruiz threatens Cecilia Velázquez, a bank branch manager, during a police siege after his failed robbery attempt in Mexico City on Monday. After getting into a car with two hostages. Ruiz shot himself dead

Polish resort loses allure as big spenders go West

IN TAKOPANE SOUTHERN POLAND

KROPOWKI Street in Zakopane glitters with all the authenticity of costume jewellery. The boutiques in this Polish mountain resort are full of sparkling, studded designer dresses and the shops are a match for Vienna or Baden Baden. But, as Jerzy Iwaskiewiecz a writer, says: "Beyond the high street and the tidy wooden chalets. Zakopane is

going broke." The wealthy of Central Europe are flourishing, but their riches are moving westwards and the traditional playgrounds of the rich are beginning to look a little faded. This is important because it was always assumed that the capitalist revolution would see prosperity trickle down from on high. Only that made palatable the great yawning gap between the new rich and the new poor. There are beggars in the

streets, Aids victims and

homeless people; and there are scented women swaddled in mink stepping out of darkwindowed limousines. In this sense Polish cities are indistinguishable from London or

But in Central Europe they have had to discard half a century of egalitarian propaganda and it still smarts that a New Year's Eve party in a Warsaw hotel can cost the equivalent of a doctor's monthly wage. A reporter making a new year round of shops in Warsaw was horrified to find a party dress priced at over \$500, She made her excuses, she says, and left.

Zakopane, high in the Tatra mountains, was the St Moritz of the Warsaw Pact. The finer slopes may have been on the Slovak side of the border, but the Poles understood how to make a commercial magnet out of this small, charming village of goatherds and dog breeders. Even under the commu-

nists. Kropowki Street became a place to flaunt Italian sunglasses and designer ski suits. Some of the wealthy roughed it, staying with richly rewarded local families, but nonetheless held their antic après ski parties in the luxurious Kasprowy Hotel perched above

Under communism there was private wealth, some of it legally acquired. Farming was in private hands and greenhouse owners, growing flowers or tomatoes, prospered. So did bourique owners, record producers, artists with overseas contracts, fashion designers, confectioners, silk manulacturers, money changers



vate abortion facilities. Their social season could be charted easily: summer in the dachas around the Mazurian lakes, winter in Zakopane.

parties in the Polish capital's renowned Architects' Club, In the most miserable days of martial law, when meat and sugar were rationed and lavatory paper was a rarity, there were five Rolls-Royces purring around the country. Now the world has changed

and you notice it quickly in Zakopane. "The money has moved to the Alps," Iwaskiewicz, a long-time visitor to the resort, says. There are a few concessions to Western trends - young snowboarders in baggy trousers are in vogue -but on the whole Zakopane has lost its fizz. The wealthy of Central Europe see no point in spending their cash in the East. Increasingly they buy houses in Andalusia and Kensington and winter in South Africa or Gstaad, Switzerland. Zakopane prices remain out

of reach of ordinary Poles and

classes who could find lowcost niches outside the resort are giving up or confining their trips to five days instead of a fortnight. It is a similar story in other resorts. Miragowo, an exclusive hotel in the Mazurian lakes, once an attraction for rich weekending Poles, is now dependant on German tourists searching nostalgically for what they regard as their lost lands.

After the revolutions of 1989-90. underground wealth edged above the surface. The 50 richest Poles, listed in 1991, included men (no women) with interests in meat processing, former racing drivers and sports stars who had managed to grab Western car dealerships, and building magnates. Now five years on, some of

these people are in deep water. The magazine Sukces this month lists 50 wealthy businessmen, starting with a property dealer accused of embezzling some hundreds of thousands of pounds, who hunting for the absconding developer and five of the 50 are living abroad; 15 are under arrest. At least half a dozen of those mentioned on the "antilist" were regarded five years ago as the winners rather than the villains of the capitalist

What has changed is that

capitalism is becoming more staid in Central Europe and works increasingly within legal confines. in 1991, as in Russia today, the social equation in Central Europe was that wealth bought power. In 1997, the formula is that wealth buys respectability. A dozen private schools are well established in Poland, although there is an increasing trend for wealthy people to send their children to British

public schools. The great difference be-tween the Polish rich of a decade ago and the rich of today is income tax: for the most part it is now paid without question as part of the price of upward mobility.

WORLD SUMMARY

Reporters visit Peru hostages

Lima: For the first time since Peru's hostage crisis began. terday into the Japanese Amapproached, rebel gummen inside the compound shouted insults against the Govern-ment and denied that they

were terrorists.

President Fujimori appeared to soften his earlier stance against the rebeis when he said he would consider granting them sale passage out of the country if they released the captives and lay down their weapons. (AP)

Grand Canyon flights curbed

Washington: Further restrictions are to be imposed on tourist flights over the Grand Canyon in an effort to cut down noise disturbance (Ian Brodie writes). New rules include banning sightseeing flights from just before sunset until just after dawn. Operators must also replace nearly half their aircraft with quieter planes within four years, and cannot expand their fleets.

328 years' jail in Mafia cases

Palermo: A Sicilian court sentenced 38 mañosi to a total of 328 years in jail in the final stage of a trial that started under the assassinated judges, Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, more than a decade ago. The court in Palermo reached verdicts in several cases, including the so-called Pizza Connection heroinsmuggling ring. (Reuter)

ager in end

Russians protest over arrests

New York: Russia protested to America after two diplomats assigned to the UN got into a fracas with New York police over a parking ticket. A Russian and a Belarussian had parked illegally and the police hauled the Russian from the car. The Belarussian then hit one of the officers and the two men were arrested briefly.

Tunnel rescuers free travellers

Tbilisi: Rescue teams working with bulldozers and armoured vehicles evacuated scores of travellers, who had been trapped for days inside an avalanche-blocked tunnel in the Caucasus Mountains. The site was expected to be fully cleared of stranded motorists by today, officials said. (AP)

Veterans outraged by medals of dishonour

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Pentagon has dropped America's principal maker of military decorations after the family-owned firm sold unauthorised copies of the na-

tion's highest honour HLI Lordship Industries, bused in New York, produced 300 extra Medals of Honour for sale to collectors at \$75 (£45) each. The medal has been awarded 3,401 times for extraordinary valour in combat since its creation by Congress in 1861, mostly post-humously. Only 170 living servicemen possess the award. The maximum penalty for unauthorised wearing of the decoration was raised recently

to a year in prison. Lordship Industries had been the medal's sole authorised manufacturer since the late 1970s and its most recent contract was for 600 medals but it made 900. The extras were discovered by an off-duty FBI agent, a former US Navy Scal who spotted a pair of

them on sale while browsing at a military memorabilia fair in New Jersey.

The company pleaded guilty to making false medals. Its lawyer admitted that two of the three brothers who ran the company had known about the forgery, but said they had since been removed and that none of the firm's 120 employees had been involved.

imposed the maximum fine of \$80,000 and ordered the company to repay the \$22,500 in had earned from the sale of the unauthorised medals. "True Medal of Honour recipients and their families have a right to be outraged by their con-duct." District Judge William

Bassler said. "It is a theft of our respect. It a rape of our ideals," said Paul Bucha, a retired army captain and a president of the Congressional Medal of Honour Society, who earned his decoration in Vietnam.

Weakened Gingrich seeks new term A DEFIANT Newt Gingrich FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

has decided to seek re-election as Speaker of the House of Representatives next Tuesday, even if his punishment for ethics violations has not been decided by then.

The Republican leader's determination to run was an-nounced yesterday as his allies strove to shore up support and Democrats continued to de-mand his resignation.

organised a mass conference call for rank-and-file members to reinforce solidarity after one backbencher, Michael Forbes of New York, declared he would not vote for Mr Ging-rich. A former Gingrich loyalist, he said dynamic leader-ship was needed at the start of the new Congress from someone who was not weakened by the ethics struggle. At least ten other House

Republicans have said they

are unsure whether they will

support Mr Gingrich. His

closest advisers privately ex-

pect more defections but still believe he will survive. It

would need 20 Republicans

out of 227 to abstain for him to eral alleged abuses of power. Mr Gingrich himself, nor-

mally so loquacious, remained silent and out of sight as the struggle over his future raged. Columnists and editorials have taken up both sides of the argument, with many noting would be ironic for Mr Gingrich to be driven from office over one ethics issue while President Clinton, who

remains unscathed.

Twelve days ago Mr Ging-rich acknowledged breaking House ethics rules by providing inaccurate information to investigators and failing to ege course complied with laws harring the use of tax-exempt charitable funds for a partisan political project. Republican leaders immediately described



Mr Gingrich being sworn in for the first time in 1994

misdemeanour and confident ly announced that Mr Gingrich would be re-elected as Speaker. In the meantime they said, the ethics committee would meet to decide his punishment, which they implied would amount to no

more than a slap on the wrist. This plan has come partially unravelled. The ethics committee, evenly balanced be-tween Republicans and Democrats, has been unable to schedule a quick meeting to dispose of the complaint.

Even worse for the Republicans. Jim McDermott, the committee's leading Demo-crat, has decreed that in spite of Mr Gingrich's admission of guilt, the matter cannot be dealt with in a matter of hours as the Speaker and his supporters had hoped.

Time will be needed for the

four ethics members who carried out the investigation to brief the other six about the case. In short, the Democrats are determined that the committee's work will not be finished before the vote next Tuesday.

Diamond deal with Moscow loses glitter

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

ONE of the most enduring and extraordinary partner-ships in modern Russian history formally came to a close last night when De Beers, the South African diamond company, terminated its contract to sell Russian diamonds on the world market.

In a move with potentially damaging effects on the price of diamonds, and the cartel controlled by-De Beers, the company said that from today it would not longer recognise the contract to sell Russia's rough diamonds.

"From January our formai commitment falls away," said Raymond Clark, the De Beers representative in Moscow. He added that the company would continue to buy Rus-sian diamonds, but outside the formal relationship which had

endured for nearly 40 years. Until yesterday. Russia's annual sale of diamonds. through De Beers' Londonbased Gentral Selling Organ- is possible.

isation, was valued at E727 million, about one quarter of the cartel's annual sales. De Beers was forced to act after months of largely fruit-less negotiations with the Russian authorities on a new agreement. Under the old terms, Russia was supposed to sell 95 per cent of its gem-quality diamonds to De Beers. However, the South Africans became increasingly frustrated by the chaotic state of the Russian industry and claimed that substantial "leakages" of Russian stones were turning

up on the world market. The irony is that De Beers had a far more successful trading relationship with Moscow when the two sides were supposedly implacable ideological foes, with South Africa under white minority rule and the Kremlin con-

trolled by the Communists: Privately, industry analysts believe that a fresh agreement

1714.

Peking chief Jiang fears losing grip on power

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BONG KONG

WERE he to die now, Deng Xiaoping's passing could not come at a worse time for China's present de facto leader, 70-year-old Jiang Zemin, who wears the three caps of President. Communist Party chief and top military man as chairman of the military

Mr Jiang, a lacklustre engi neer, has been named the core of the third generation of leadership — after Mao and Mr Deng — so his succession s not in any real doubt if Mr Deng should succumb soon.

But 1997 could be host to three potentially destabilising events, observers say. One is the death of Mr Deng, a titanic political figure who from a firm comrade in arms of Mao on the Long March became a but not political freedoms and transformed China with

economic reforms in 1979. The second is the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty after 150 years from Britain to China at midnight on June 30. Many Chinese will be itching for the same future minor liberties, should they materialise, that are promised to the former British colony under the operation of "one country, two systems", particularly the

Jiang: has doubts about

succeeding Deng

freedom to have more th one child. There could also be for a part in Hong Kong's

Mr Jiang will cement his ust as politically repres hold on power by promoting members of his Shanghai Malia from the city he served as party chief.

power in Deng's waning year s not as strong as that enjoyed formerly by past leaders, so newspapers reported here in October, he may well have lost his ability to hear and even to walk and to converse."

Li Peng, the unpopular Premier, who is credited with the violent suppression of the chie to retire in 1998 and is not regarded as a candidate for eng's family have recently

Ost militante envoys say.

There are few obvious chal-engers, shough Mr Jiang sives every indication of feel-ing insecure. Indeed, if is this sation" inder which political and cultural life sas come under closer party control.

China eager to end colonial 'disgrace'

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

CHINA'S resumption of sovereignty over Hong Kong this itonalist Taiwan to avoid any year will finally eliminate a 100-year-old national disgrace" on the country's doorstep, President flang Zemin said vesterday in a new year

address. in a broadcast aimed at overseas listeners of China Radio International, Mr Jiang also spelt out a warning to Taiwan to stay in line in 1997.

The return of Hong Kong to the motherland will wash away a century-old national disgrace and signal a signifi-cant victory in the Chinese people's struggle toward national reunification," said Mr. Jiang, who is also the General Secretary of the Communist

Party The President emphasised that Hong Kong's status as an international finance, trade and transport hub would remain unchanged after the British colony reverts to Chi-

nese rule on July L.
It is my belief that our Hong Kong compatriots, after becoming the masters of their own affairs, will make Hong Kong even more prosperous.

Mr Jiang's new year message also carried a stern warn-

A CONTROVERSY every bit

as hot as the Olympic flame

has flared up about the fate of

the "cauldron" used at last

mg to the authorities in naing the island's diplomatic

The Taiwan authorities are well advised to respect national interests, to cease all activities designed to split the motherland, and to make practical moves toward the improvement of cross-straits

relations," Mr Jiang said.

Achieving reunification at the earliest possible date was in the interests of both mainlanders and Taiwanese. "We welcome Taiwanese people of all circles to raise beneficial ideas and suggestions on peaceful reunification." Mr

fiang said.
President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan meanwhile reiterated an appeal for Peking to respond reasonably" to his peace proposals. He said his Government would not give up its efforts to achieve an end to hostilines, despite increased moves by China to isolate Taiwan after Mr Lee's controversial visit to the US in 1995. That trip was interpreted by Peking as an attempt by Taiwan to promote its independence.

Row flares over fate of Olympic

cauldron axed by the Braves

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

insurance, the Braves say they



60 bodies found after train blast

ared about 60 bodies from a crowded train ripped apart by two bomb blasts in northeastwho blamed tribal guerrillas for the attack, said yesterday that they expected to find more victims in the wreckage.

Three coaches were destroyed in the blasts after the train left Kokrajhar in Assam state for Delhi on Monday, the police said. A total of 63 injured people were taken to hospital. (Reuter)

Envoy quitting

Scool: James Laney, the US Ambassador to South Korea. said he had submitted his resignation for personal reasons. He described the Korean-American alliance as the 'strongest ever". (Reuter)

Jailing anger

Delhi: Tibet's government-inexile condemned an 18-year jail term for Ngawang Choephel a Tibetan music scholar, imposed by China for alleged spying and demanded his release. (Reuter)

Strikes halted

Seoul: South Korean unions marked the new year holidays by calling off strikes over a law that would strengthen employers' rights, but threatened to wage fresh action in the public sector. (Reuter)

Burma arrests

Rangoon: Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt, of the Burmese junta, said 47 political activists were arrested after unrest, and that communists and opposition politicians wanted to destabilise Burma. (Reuter)

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nd deals

summer's Games in Atlanta. The future of the scaffolding-like structure, containing the flame lit by Muhammad All in the opening ceremony before a worldwide television audience, is up in the air because the stadium's new operators do not want to take

responsibility for it. The Olympic stadium is being converted into a baseball field for the Atlanta Braves and will be renamed Turner Field after the team's owner, Ted Turner, the founder of the Cable News

Amous about security and the cost of maintenance and

do not want the cauldron and have suggested that the tower should be moved, possibly to Centennial Park, the nearby brick plaza where a bomb exploded during the Olympics.

Siah Armajani, who designed the cauldron, has said that he would prefer it to be destroyed rather than moved. "If they want to move it, they should take it down," he said. His protest has been joined by activists in the rundown

Summerhill neighbourhood next to the stadium who say it could lure tourists to the area. "If we move it, we are going to lose the history," Douglas Dean, a community leader. said. A local woman has set up a Keep the Cauldron committee to raise money to preserve

the monument and an Atlanta lawyer has said that he would finance its upkeep if he could mount a plaque on it honour-ing his immigrant Lebanese grandfather. The dispute is not the first to

engulf the cauldron. Shortly after the Olympics, American Indians protested when a giant tomahawk axe, the symbol of the Atlanta Braves, was erected on the structure in what they saw as a racist

insult. Joe Frazier, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, sparked another furore when he suggested that he would have been happy to see Ali, his former rival who now suffers from Parkinson's disease, fall into the cauldron when he lit it.

Supermodel Linda Evangelista finds the new MaxMara collection worth getting out of bed for, reports Grace Bradberry

Why Linda wears the trousers

motti, an Italian lawyer, saw pictures of Audrey Hepburn in designs by the French couturier Hubert de Givenchy, Inspired by Hepburn's gamine elegance, and by the skill of his mother, who ran a professional sewing school, Maramotti decided to create his own fashion label.

The first collection consisted of one coat and two jackets, all three cut with clean lines. Nothing revolutionary, you might think, yet MaxMara was the first Italian fashion house to create ready-to-wear.

Today, of course, we are deluged by labels. MaxMara stands for the reverse of autocratic fashion cufture. Even the label's most devoted customers do not know the name of the figure-head designer. and that is because there is no such person. In-house designers are guided by outside consultants, some of them big names. Karl Lagerfeld, for example, was a collaborator in the Seventies, and Doice & Gabbana contributed in the Eighties. The names are never divulged at the time. The collections are intended to dovetail with women's lifestyles. They do not represent readymade lifestyles in the way that a Gucci outfit might.

This philosophy explains the number of "diffusion" lines. The MaxMara collection is aimed at working women looking for glamorous, well-cut clothes that will last for several seasons. They want their wardrobes to be recognisably modern, but not trendy. Then there are 22 other labels, of which the best known are Weekend by Sportmax and Pennyblack.

About 17 are sold in Britain. None of the labels is associated with a particular film star, or celebrity. Women as diverse as Isabella Rossellini and Liv Tyler, the young star of the Bertolucci film Stealing Beauty, have been seen wearing mainline MaxMara. Luigi Maramotti, son of Achille. and the company's manuging director, has remarked that he would rather see a picture of Rossellini passing through Milan airport in a MaxMara coal, than an actress standing up at the Oscars in a dress she has been sponsored to wear.

has also refused to go retro. The spring/summer 1997 collection contained most of the directional items included by other designers. There were wide-legged trouser suits, colonial-inspired jackets, tunic tops, asymmetrical neck-lines and abstract prints. But none had an obvious period feel. This was deliberate. "I don't think retro can work because nobody wants to look back. everyone wants to look into the Giorgio Guidotti, future."



"We have a contemporary woman who travels and wants to be modern, to have a personality. She doesn't want to look like Evita one season and Cleopatra the next.

The advertising campaign. eaturing Lines photographed by Meisel, is intended to reflect this. Evangelista was allowed to select her outfits. She fell in love with the trouser suits.

It is impossible to create images without some reference to the past, and in this case the inspiration was Louise Brooks and the Twenties. "But what we definitely didn't want was retro," says Guidotti - the distinction is between the past as a reference point, and as a pattern book. The self-conscious Seventies styling of some the more cuttingedge designers is anathema to





Nehru-collar jacket and matching trousers, £408

Main picture: charcoal wool check tie jacket and trousers, 2500

Left: navy double-breasted pinstripe tailored jacket £330 and matching trousers £120; navy shirt £98

Below: wine-red Nehru mulberry-coloured rousers, £321

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STEVEN MEISEL Linda Evangelista Hair and make-up: Garren and Lauren Mercier

Maxmara stockista: 32 Sloane Street, SW1. 0171-235 7941 153 New Bond Street, W1. 0171-491 4748 Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, 0171-235 5000 Harrods, Knightsbridge, 0171-730 1234

Seifridges, W1, 0171-529 Matches, 37a High Street, Wimbledon, 0181-944 5366 Siks, 59-61 High Street, Tunbridge Wells.

National inquiry number: 0171-287 3434



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A changing room of one's own

'Women

are more

automated.

They want

everything

there are few times when a woman feels herself quite so much the victim of the consumer society as when she enters a high street changing room. Even in the more expensive stores, the conditions are frequently cramped, and offer little in the

way of privacy.

Why is it that the curtains are never quite wide enough for the space? Why do the doors not meet the ceiling? And why are so many changing rooms without mirrors. forcing us to parade out in front of other people's husbands and boyfriends (and, if we're gluttons for punishment, our own)? As Virginia Woolf might have written had she shopped at Kookai, all one wants is a changing room of one's own. it's really no

wonder that women become conspiracy theorists when it comes to changing rooms. If the mirrors aren't warped then the lighting is deceptive. Do I really look this good - or, more often, this bad? And if you can't find fault with either of those, then there's always the suspicion that the assistants are trained to harry people out before they notice the obvious design flaws.

Hugo Tugman, the architect behind several new shops, inordered' cluding the new Jigsaw Mens-wear in Manchester, is perplexed by the accusations of devious design: "One of the modern myths is that we've got it all worked out. It's a lot more based on gut

Just to get the record straight. Tugman's changing rooms all contain mirrors, mounted flat against the wall with no attempt to distort the image. But not all his cubicles will be as private as the consumer might like, because while customers would doubt-less like to change behind padlocked iron doors, retailers are into "permeability".

At the very least shop assistants want to know if there is anybody in there. If retailers think they can get away with it, they will deprive customers of individual mirrors. There's always a debate about whether it's good to have them in the changing rooms." says Tugman. "Some retailers are very upfront and want to get at the customers.

That either means having them wander out, or making the doors so small you can peak

Men won't put up with the same degree of "permeability" as women, "The psychology of shopping is very different," explains Tugman. "Women are more automated. They want everything to be ordered. Men want something more relaxed and

unintimidating." In Jigsaw Menswear in Manchester the doors go from floor to ceiling, though they are constructed from vertical slats, angled to let the light in: "The assistants could tell if anyone was in there and could speak through the slats." But men have the luxury

of being able to struggle into their trousers without someone flinging back a curtain to ask: "Everything all right in there?"

Only one minor deception has been practised on the men of Manchester: the ceiling is pink, and so a warm light diffuses the store. Many customers would doubtless recoil at the idea that they were seeing their clothes in rose-tinted mirrors, but apparently they don't notice.
What most of us crave, of

course, is daylight. Tugman in-sists that architects simply cannot simulate this in a shop: "You can get light fittings that look like daylight. and they make you look like death. Daylight is so powerful you can never recreate it with

Instead. Tugman favours warm white lights — not so cold as to render one corpse-like, but not too cosy either. "It needs to look chic." And he never puts spotlights directly above the head: "Strong directional light can be very unpleasant"

More unpleasant than being in a chang-ing room, however, is queueing for one, which explains why so few contain so much as a stool. No wonder some women now resort to the ruse of "unshopping" - buying several items hurriedly, then taking most of them back within the 14-day grace period.

> GRACE BRADBERRY STYLE EDITOR

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THE CITY BOND BUTTER

When clot

I don't want riches, I don't want flash cars — I just want to be tidy

of looking like an accomplishment. Why fat, on the other hand, inspires such loathing, out of proportion to any mere aesthetic dismay, is that it smacks of lack of restraint, of a dreaded inconti-

they're paying lip-service to the notion of neatness as a neurosis, secretly they are pleased with orderliness, and

ample, can make jokes about being the sad sort of character who has to get her knicker drawer sorted and catalogued before she can do any work because the outcome of such obsessive behaviour is that everything will be tidy, and

To go back to the fatmessy analogy 1'd say that, in a similar way, w have more sympathy for

This

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gets thin (and I promise that's how a lot of people think: if it sounds mad, it may be, but still don't write to me as if it's what I think) but someone whose unhappiness makes them est too much just gets fat, and that is where we lose problem is

to be concerned. But there it is: I have resolved this New Year's Day to shed several pounds' worth of scribbled-on envelopes, outof-date press releases, shooping lists, phone messages and faxes - and this is just in my study. The rest of the house groaning under the weight of old clothes, old letters and invitations (again), lost socks

contemplate, that I won't. Tidying up is not alone the answer, I do see that. Experience has taught me that the relief is short-lived. A week or so after one of our sporadic blitzes, the piles start

mounding up again.
What is needed is a personality change. That would be dangerous, of course. The

significantly to the hellishness of it all, but sufficiently unmessy to be able to take it all in hand ocasionally and - much more important - to be able, always, to feel that the fault is really mine.

Just as relationships can founder when alcoholics dry out, so I wonder whether it would be dangerous to try to tidy up my

That, again, is a delaying tactic. But the trouble with being seriously untidy is that it is hard to see where to start. I will be able to answer my letters (and to those of you who have been good enough to write, promise I will) once I've done my accounts. Or that's what I tell myself. And I'm going to do my accounts soon. Or that is what I tell my accoun-

Some weeks ago I mentioned, for some reason, that I wore the same thing to more or less every party I went to. I have come to the conclusion, after brutally honest reflection on the subject, that the real reason is probably because it's the only outfit I can lay my hands on. Most of my clothes lie in a black dusty fug at the bottom of the wardrobe, or are still in hopefully folded piles on top of the washing machine, waiting, in vain, to be

I don't think I am quite an irredeemable slut. I keep myself and my kitchen clean. but I need a great deal of help to keep the chaos at bay. I have come to the conclusion that my resolution to become a tidy person will be realised only if first 1 resolve rather energetically to be come a

rich one. If I had the money (and believe me, it would take a lot) I believe I could pay myself out

of this mess. I once went on holiday, to stay with friends who'd rented a house complete with a retinue of staff. She cooked, her husband made drinks and their nieces did the cleaning, washing and ironing. Believe me, there wasn't the opportunity to be messy. I have never wanted a grand life, or to be rich, but now I can see the point, I don't want flash cars or clothes, I don't want several large houses and I don't want to go shopping all day (well,

maybe just on some days) but what I would love is to have several people very well paid (I wouldn't want to exploi anyone, and the fair wage would have to be a large one) to look after me. And I mean look after: I need someone who can decide which drawer my tights should go in and then make it their life's work to keep them there.

In the meantime though, I do see, I am just going to have to go upstairs and tidy up - and I may be some time.



Drowning in the rising tide of chaos - the only way to get yourself out of a mess such as this. Nigella Lawson believes, is to undergo a complete personality change



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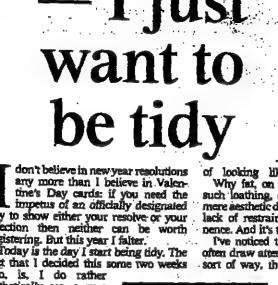
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day to show either your resolve or your affection then neither can be worth registering. But this year I falter. Today is the day I start being tidy. The fact that I decided this some two weeks ago, is, I do rather

pathetically see, a sure sign of my own bad If I really were positive

about changing my depressingly messy ways, I would have started clearing up as soon as I'd the decision, than postdating it. This is the trouble,

though, with being a messy person. One feels so engulied by impending chaos that even to begin to put a bit of order one's life frightening.

Inlying up requires that one throws oneself can one hurl oneself into the abyss when even standing on the edge peering in is terrilying?

Not all messy people feel like that. Some don't even notice the squalor in which they live. Others actively prefer it. I, unfortunately, am a messy person who hates mess.

How hard, you may ask, can it be, then, to tidy up? But being messy is like being fat: those who consider themselves to have a weight problem know that the way to solve it is so ear less, but somehow in practice it doesn't feel that

to tidy up. I wouldn't be so trapped in the mess of my own making now, just as those who have no trouble eating sensibly tend not to put on weight in the first

notionally speaking, between being overweight and being messy. It's about control, or lack of it. However disparagingly we might speak about those rigor-ously disciplined people who exercise absolute control on themselves and their environment, we tend to admire them, in, admittedly, an envious fashion.

freak, and even if there is something intimidating and rather un-cosy about the sort of person who never has a pound or a piece of paper out of place, it is an uncosiness that has a confounding way

nence. And it's the same with mess. I've noticed that people who are tidy often draw attention to it in an awful-me sort of way, that implies that although

Victoria Wood, for ex-

anorexics than we do for compulsive eaters. Someone whose mental disorder shows itself in not eating at least

sympathy. We're too appalled

and a clutter so dispiriting even to

dynamic works at present if only because I am married to someone messy enough to add to the confusion, to contribute



simple.

If I, for example, found it easy enough

I think there is a further connection.

This is, after all, the age of the control

When clothes make the man

now have three identical scarves, all Christmas presents from my mother. They are no ordinary scarves. They are of double thick wool. with Viking runes on them. and they have bobbles at either end. I have long considered taking them back, but the Orkney Islands are a long way to go. Instead they take up an absurd amount of space. The idea of wearing them is

inconceivable. From time to time I have wondered why my mother has so completely failed to appreciate my innate good taste, persisting in giving me the kind of garb that is not only a sartorial disaster, but is so clearly not my style. I see myself as a rather raffish dresser, unconventional but elegant, with clothes that acknowledge fashion in an airy sort of way without ever being trapped by it. That at least is

the intention. True. I occasionally fall short of my own demanding standards. I remember one particular moment of disillusion when, as an undergraduate at Cambridge, I acquired an olive green French corduroy jacket, edged in leather, which I wore with a black polo-neck and draimpipe jeans — the last word in rive gauche chic: Jean-Paul Belmondo would have died for it. Glancing at myself in a shop

Gifts reveal your true self, Magnus Linklater says

window, I suddenly saw something rather appalling: a shambling figure with short, spindly legs, wearing what looked like an over-sized donkey-jacket - not so much Belmondo as Groucho Marx. l immediately cancelled all public appearances and sat down to reassess, not just my ward-

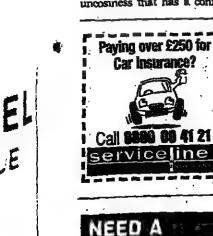
robe but my life. Nevertheless, there have been moments of triumph. One thinks instinctively of a certain brushed denim suit from John Stephen, circa 1965, so tight around the crotch one could only wear it for two hours. I believe they still talk of it at the Flamingo Club. However, I digress. The point at issue is why my

mother, who should know me reasonably well, has so misread my character. It could, of course, be simple eccentricity, or plain forgetfulness. She is, after all, 86, and might be forgiven for having acquired elements of both. Nevertheless, in all other respects she is as sharp as a knife. Instead 1 have begun to wonder whether there might be some kind of sub-Freudian message here. Perhaps she thinks that this is

really the person I am deep down. That inside this casual boulevardier with the Place Si Michel swagger, there is a tubby, muffled up, jolly, bucolic type trying to get out. nd then an even worse thought struck me. Perhaps she has sensed

that this is the kind of person I am turning into anyway; perhaps she is merely helping to speed the process. I raced to my wardrobe to carry out an immediate audit. What I found there came as a nasty shock. I discovered, not one, but two blazers with shiny brass buttons. There was a pair of brown, clumpy shoes. looking distinctly sensible. A stout jacket made of Harris Tweed only just hid a pair of yellow corduroy trousers, with room for growth around the waist. There was a cloth cap, a golfing jersey. There was ... Oh God ... a cardigan.

That night I had a terrible dream. I was preparing to go out, and had donned my blazer, vellow cordurov trousers, clumpy shoes and cloth cap. I turned and saw a thick woollen scarf with Viking runes and large bobbles at either end, I felt instinctively that it was right for me. With a warm glow of pleasure I reached out to pick it up, and at that point, I woke up. And it was true.







THEATRE 1

Jessica Lange triumphs in her West End debut, as Blanche DuBois in A Streetcar Named Desire



THEATRE 2

But Yule Better Change, Michael McArdle's musical version of Scrooge, is a far from uplifting experience THE



DANCE

The Royal Ballet celebrates the Christmas season in fine style with Ashton's Cinderella



RISING STAR

Not too long ago, Emily McKenzie was working as a waitress in Oxford Street. Now she's starring in a panto

THEATRE: A Blanche to remember from Jessica Lange; a night to forget with Scrooge and Bob Marley

Life in the killing jar

ennessee Williams's stage directions say that Blanche DuBois, with her white dress and scanered manner, resembles a moth. He might more generously have compared the protagonist of his Streetcar Named Desire to a butterfly that has unwisely ventured into an aviary dominated by a bird of prey. Certainly that was the comparison that seemed best to sum up Jessica Lange's Blanche as she teetered on to the Haymarket stage last night and, her hands fluttering at her neck, her cheek and her forehead. proceeded to give a performance that combined vulnerability with a delicacy and intelligence not normally associated with moths.

Blanche is the most memorable member of the collection of dramatic characters Williams once called "my little company of the laded and frightened and difficult and odd and lonely". Like many of his people, she is in flight from reality and, like others, she is nostalgic for a South that, as Williams also said, "had grace, elegance and an inbred culture and was not a society based on money". But Belle Rêve, as her family mansion was almost inevitably called, has been mortgaged and drunk away. Now she has nowhere to take all her memories and dreams, fantasies and lies, but to her sister and brother-in-law's shabby upartment in the wrought-iron quarter of New Orleans.

With Toby Stephens's Stanley Kowalski sweatily embodying everything Belle Reve isn't, you never for a moment doubt that her visit will end in disaster. Peter Hall's production, although it fails sufficiently to acknowledge the heat of a Louisiana summer, sustains the proper tension and, when the climaxes come, achieves the necessary intensity.

But a second and even more interesting conflict is to be found within the war between faded gentility and urban brashness.

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Norwich Theatre Royal

Sunderland

Empire Theatre

25 Feb - 1 Mar 7.15pm

Nottingham

Theatre Royal

Manchester

Palace Theatre

ANNIVERSARY

SEASON. .

A Streetcar Named Desire Haymarket

That is Blanche's battle with her own repressed yet irrepressible sexuality. Elia Kazan, the play's first director, went so far as to say that she was Williams's surreptilous portrait of himself: "An ambivalent figure attracted to the harshness and vulgarity around him at the same time that he fears it, because it threatens his life."

That was certainly true of Williams, a promiscuous homosexual who hated his own weakness for rough trade. It is less true of Lange,

for all her flirtatious undulatings and her Mississippi coyness. You never quite see the erotic need and craving beneath the precosity. But why pick an argument with acting that in most ways seems so right? Lange shows you the pinched, stricken face behind the brittle. glittering smiles and the pain and the panic beneath the ethereal charm. Add desperate bursts of anger, a sense of irony and even the odd hint that in a better world Blanche might have been a nice. natural woman, and you have as complete a performance as anyone should expect.

Imogen Stubbs Meanwhile, brings plenty of warmth and energy to the not-so-rewarding part of Blanche's sister Stella, and

reputation with a Stanley who does much more than merely loll and slouch. He flashes insolent smiles and triumphant grins, he dangerously smoulders and violently explodes, yet keeps you mindful of the fact that it is his house that is being invaded, his hospitality abused, his person patronised and insulted. You can see why Blanche hates him. You can also see why Stella cleaves to him. It is a performance that would not have disgraced the actor who created the role, Marlon

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE ■ This review appeared in late editions

Five in search of a laugh

IN THE annual game of Musical Scrooges two colleagues carried off the Anthony Newley and Richard Briers versions, leaving me with Michael McArdie's. cannot honestly say that his title (for he wrote, directs and plays the central role) led me to hope for a great deal from his enterprise. The prospect became bleaker on dis-covering that a coach party of 50 had postponed their booking, reducing the audience to five, equal to the size of the cast.

We scattered few did our best to impart some jollity to our responses, partly out of respect for the cast's courage but mainly to cheer ourselves up on a chilly evening fitfully warmed by the show's ersatz mirth. Possibly, though I would not be willing to take bets, a full house would make it all go with a zing.

The press release calls what McArdle has concocted a Magical Musical Comedy but the only magic occurred during the interYule Better Change New End, NW3

val. when from out of the ether two humans materialised and increased the audience to seven Where could they have come from? I suspect one of them was Marilyn Monroe, or rather, the actress who played her in the first half and never reappeared, representing as Monroe does the Spirit of Christ-

You will have guessed that this is no ordinary Christmas Carol. It has songs, also by McArdle, that allude to the work of others, mostly dead others; for instance, in one of the show's better jokes, Scrooge is visited by Bob Marley's Ghost -Joanna Robinson under a topheavy Rasta bonnet and curtain of dreadlocks.

Mason Laird makes a decent stab at Buddy Holly, groping his way blindly along the scenery, but

he introduces a wretchediy written Cratchit scene, where Tiny Tim is played by a cardboard skeleton. Finally some familiar drumbeats bring us to Also Sprach Elvis Presley and the uplifting message of "You gotta live, you gotta love".

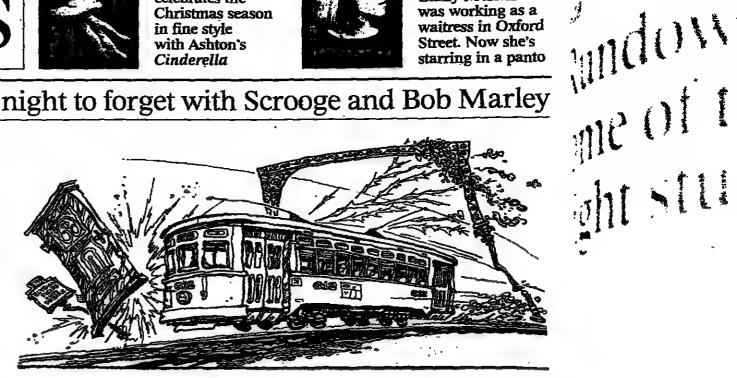
Production values are frugally distributed, and there is little evidence of a feeling for character. The rock stars who try to melt Scrooge's flinty heart manage to make him jig along to their beat but, since what finally changes him is the sight of his own gravesione, they could have saved emselves most of their trouble.

I suppose the Ferziwig dance at the Bar Humbug is another goodish joke, which makes two in all. Dickens's book is a fable of great power: people cheapen, eviscerate or prettify it and cannot be stopped but their efforts should not be encouraged. This is rough and laboured theatre.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Winning team but a no-score draw

FLANDERS OPERA: Barry Millington brings the news from Antwerp and Ghent





"A performance that would not have disgraced Brando himself": Toby Stephens as Stanley Kowalski and Jessica Lange — "vulnerability combined with delicacy and intelligence" — as Blanche DuBols

FLANDERS Opera, which services two delightful houses in Ghent and Antwerp, has just commissioned its first opera. The subject is promising skilfully transferred from epistolary novel to lyric drama. Yet a question mark remains over the choice of

classic of amatory intrigue on the stage was a protracted one in which three people, in addition to the composer, participated (more or less harmoniously): librettist Dirk Van der Cruysse, conductor Patrick Davin and director Philippe Sireuil. Letter-writing, sensibly, features lit-tle, being replaced by flesh-and-

- Lacios's Les liaisons dangercuses - and the story has been composer: the Belgian Piet Swerts. The process of recreating this

blood encounters informed by dialogue that is of necessity a drastic reduction of the original. And even if Jorge Jara's sturning array of period costumes occasionally confuses the picture, Sireuil's straightforwardly representational pro-duction for the most part clarifies the action. There are few moments of real theatrical inspiration, though Sireuil's lighting creates resonant stage pictures.

The real problem lies with Swerts's score. The 36-year-old Belgian has always been something of a stylistic magpie. Debussy is an avowed model in Liaisons, but the orchestral textures lack the translu-cence and subtlety of the French master's, and the harmonic idiom. incredibly, is rather less progressive. Swerts's opera could have been written 100 years ago and even then would have sounded old-fashioned.

François Le Roux should have created the role of the Vicomte de Valmont in Ghent, but a throat infection forced him to mime the role while Olivier Lallouette did a very creditable job from the side of the stage. Marilyn Schmiege (the Marquise de Merteuil) was a formidable co-conspirator and Lyne Fortin their chief victim, Madame de Tourvel. The orchestral contribu-

tion, under Davin, was excellent.

Also alternating between Ghent and Antwerp is a brilliant produc-tion by Stephen Lawless of a 17thvenus and Adonis and Purcell's Dido and Aeneas. The Blow is generally agreed to suffer by comparison, but when the two are woven together as seamlessly as in Lawless's production there is much to be said for seeing them in

both operas in a neo-Restoration interior with shuttered windows looking out on to, variously, a starry night, an Arcadian landscape or a Trojan fleet. Semi-clad shepherds and shepherdesses (the superb Ma-ria Cristina Kiehr among them) cavort erotically, and school-uni-formed little Cupids give the action

a contemporary stant. Visual stimuli and expressive choreography (Andrew George) complement the inspired musical direction of René Jacobs. Outstanding among the principals was Daniel Mobbs as Adonis, but Janice Hall's Venus, Susan Maclean's Dido and Ned Barth's Aeneas were hardly less impressive.



LONDON Royal Opera House Jan 1, 4 THE conductor John El-

iot Gardiner returns to Covent Garden for the Royal Opera's production of Massenet's sentimental comedy. Chérubin. The opera tells of the amorous adventures of young Cherubin, a pageboy who finds every woman he meets attractive, in spite of the reforming efforts of the Philosopher, the man in charge of his moral educa-tion, and Nina, who selflessly adores him. Will they finally win Cherubin over? Susan Graham sings the title role, with Elizabeth Futral and Alison Hagley. Theatre Club members can buy orchestra stall seats for £49 (normally £90 to £95). Tel 0171-304 4000

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THE TIMES

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Star quality: Jonathan Cope and Darcey Bussell in Frederick Ashton's Cinderella

New girl at the ball

DANCE

Cinderella

BELINDA Hatley has been with the Royal Ballet for eight years, but as a first soloist she is still finding her feet in principal roles. The latest to come her way is Ashton's heroine well-suited to Harley's

agreeable stage persona. Her Cinderella is a demure creature, tenderly affectionate towards her ineffectual father and wistfully remembering her dead mother. She may be ili-treated by her wicked stepsisters, but she has the grace to forgive them. Her salvation is the escape into fantasy, a journey into the imagination which Hatley makes most persuasively.

The ball scene includes

Covent Garden

when confronted by the marathon of turns that Ashton demands of his ballerina. But she has strong, quick feet (which one needs for Ashton). a pleasing softness to her line. and a musical sensitivity that floats over Prokofiev's rich melodies like icing on a cake.

A last-minute cast change meant Hatley was partnered by her real-life husband Michael Nunn. They rarely dance together on stage, although he some gruelling choreography, a hurdle that gave Hatley pause for thought, especially makes a sympathetic and compatible Prince to her Cin-

The night before, Cinderel-la leatured two of the estab-lished names of the Royal Ballet: Dancey Bussell and Jonathan Cope. Bussell's read-ing is surprisingly buoyant; a life of drudgery in the family kitchen doesn't seem to damp-en her spirited determination to dream of better things. Her dancing was sunny and paced with a teasing musicality.

Cope, for his part exuded true star quality. His first entrance as the Prince was a winning display of regal self-possession and romantic poise. Cope's splendid physique is the envy of many a dancer; now, it would appear, he is adding his own charismatic glamour to nature's wonderful gift.

DEBRA CRAINE

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

EMILY MCKENZIE

Age: 22.

Profession: Actress.

Currently playing: Her first professional job is playing Sara Crewe, the lead in the Christmas production of A Little Princess at the Library Theatre in Manchester, adapted from Frances Hodgson Burnett's book. "Doing both a matinee and an afternoon show leaves me really knackered," she says. Before that, she was working as a waitress in Selfridge's, which was presumably even



What do the cast think of her? "Most of them are a lot more experienced than me, so I have learnt a lot. I did feel a bit out of my depth at first, but they have been really encouraging. I was impressed to find that Ronnie Barker's daughter is in the cast Like her Dad, she's got great timing."

Other than Selfridge's, where did she train? After getting four A levels at West Kirby Grammar School for Girls, including a B in Theatre Studies (and an E in English), she studied theatre and media drama at the University of Glamorgan and the Welsh College of Music and Drama, which she left last year. In May 1995, McKenzie won an acting commendation at the National Student Drama Pestival in a production of a play called Let's Play A Game Sorry.

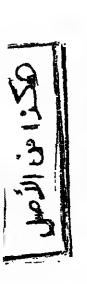
What else has she done? Give her a chance—she's only 22. She has starred in a short film made by a fellow student.

What? Surely she has been in The Bill? She hasn't been

How about Casualty then? Please. That's enough.

What does she want to do? "It's great to have any work, but I'd love to do a mixture of theatre. TV and film. I'm one of the lucky ones so far."

What do her parents think of her success? "I had always wanted to be an actress, although initially they took a lot of talking round - neither of them have theatrical backgrounds - but they certainly get excited when they come and see me."





LANDMARK

Amid the tacky charm of a cheap Florida resort resides the home of America's voyage into outer space



CHOICE I

John Eliot Gardiner conducts Cherubin at Covent Garden VENUE: Tonight at the

Royal Opera House

THE



LONDON

■ CHOICE 2

Ronnie Corbett stars in Mother Goose, Bromley's Christmas panto VENUE: Today at the

Churchill Theatre



■ CHOICE 3

In Cardiff, Mark Wigglesworth conducts a New Year's Day concert

VENUE: Tonight at St David's Hall

Rundown home of the right stuff

If These Walls Could Speak: Nigel Hawkes on the alligators, mosquitoes and towering achievements witnessed at Cape Canaveral

but not, as Tom Wolfe record-ed in The Right Stuff, any part of Florida you would write home about. When earmarked as a missile testing range in 1947, it was a strip of marsh and sandy scrub 34 miles long and five to ten miles wide. lying roughly between nowhere and the sea. Its most active residents were mosquitoes, rising in black clouds from the alligator-infested swamps.

What the Cape did have was geography. Far enough south to take some advantage from the Earth's rotational velocity to get

satellites into orbit, and with plenty of Atlantic to 6 The swallow up misfires, it offered the rocket men a makeshift perfect playeround. Wernher von Braun and cannot help his German confreres had already launched shining more than 60 V-2s at White Sands, New Mexithrough 🤊 co, but the desert wasn't big enough for them. In May 1947 a rocket went

the wrong way and landed amid the graves in a Mexican cemetery south of Juanez — a clear hint to move on. The sense of place is less intense in

America than it is in Europe, no doubt because there is so much more place to sense, and because the human footprint on most of it is so impermanent. But, by the same token, time in America moves faster, so that by 1974 - less than 25 years after its first launch - the Cape was declared a rots provided the gantry an old shack. too; it is a place steeped in our all-toorecent vesterdays:

PA

3. M

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7 L I

In 1981-7 spent an uncomfortable night at the Cape, wrapped in a blanket. in the back of a hired Ford. The day before had been fixed for the first launch of the space shuttle, and I had set out at dawn from an Orlando motel: for the easy 40-mile drive down US AIA for the launch. Me and several million others: with less than ten. minutes of the countdown to go, I was stuck in a jam some distance from the

Then providence in the form of a faulty computer, stepped in The launch was called off and rescheduled for two days later. Rather than risk a repeat of my humiliation, I spent the night before the launch in the car and watched, stiff-limbed, as Columbia finally made a perfect arc against a blue sky. A glass of champagne would

ape Canaveral is in Florida have been welcome at this point, but the Cape in those days was an austere sort of place for the visiting press. You watched the launch from plain wooden stands or from a stretch of sparsely covered open ground in front, running down to a creek where alligators osternatiously turned their backs on all

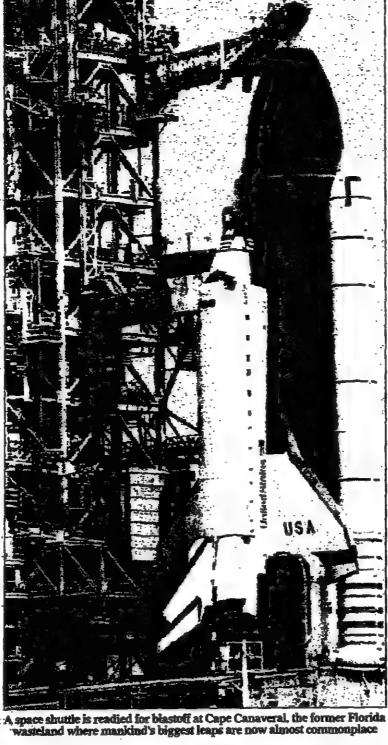
> The Cape marries the austerity of an army base to the impermanence of a cheap resort. The nearest town is Cocoa Beach, so Low Rent that nothing on this earth could ever change it", according to Wolfe.

> Camaveral was origi nally named by early Spanish sailors for its abundance of care reeds, the only remarkable quality it possessed. After President Kennedy's assassination, there was a half-baked bid to rename the Cape after him, but it never caught on, and I can't say I'm sorry. Thereare enough Kennedy me-morials already without renaming a chunk of land which

already possesses such a resonant title. The first launch at the Cape, in July 1950, was of a rocket oddly named Bumper 7, a design close enough to the V-2 to be readily recognisable to the slave labourers who built von Braun's rockets in the last years of the war. A layer of concrete 100ft wide was laid directly on the sandy soil, while steel scaffolding biorrowed from local paintswimmers brave enough to ignore the fire anis, was surrounded by sandbags and turned into a launch control blockhouse.

As 100 journalists watched from the beach, Bumper 7 proved a total fizzle. Salt air had corroded its delicate innards, and it never rose above its pad. Nor was this the last of the Cape's disastera, because, as befits a historical site, it has seen failures along with its triumphs. Here the humiliation of Sputnik's success was compounded by the failure of a Vanguard rocket to reach even the nearby Banana River, never mind orbit; here, too, three astronauts died in a fire when testing the Apollo spacecraft; and here the seven-strong crew of the shuttle Chal-lenger perished in 1986, in full view of a shocked nation

You might expect that recent launches would have oblinerated all



evidence of the earlier ones, but that is country, with the mosquitoes conreconstruct a pad, it is easier to build another a little distance away, so much of the history of the Cape is laid out in rusting gantries and long-abandoned blockhouses. From the slit windows of one of them I remember squinting across a hundred yards or so to the pad where a Redstone rocket lifted Alan Shepard in the first American manned space flight. Shepard had to wait so long on that pad that he was forced to pee inside his space suit, a contingency never anticipated by Nasa.

By the time of the Apollo missions'

Saturn V launches - the greatest noise ever created by man, bar none things were bigger, and a bit more sophisticated. They needed to be: launching a Saturn V was the equivalent of hurling a full-size naval destroyer ten miles in the air without breaking a thing on board.

Today the Cape is definitely tourist

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the American way. Rather than quered and a visitor centre that welcomes more than three million people every year. When I last saw it and I mean no offence by this - Cocoa Beach retained its tacky charm, and the seafood restaurant at Port Canaveral served fish straight from the deepfreeze while fishing boats sailed past the diners with fresh catches that would never see the plate until they had been frozen in their turn. Space travel, critics have charged.

lacks human qualities, and there is something in the complaint. Certainly the sanitised version of events put about by Nasa publicists is long on firm-jawed heroes and short on the very frailties that would make us believe them heroic. Visiting the Cape helps to set this right, for the makeshift cannot help shining through. When next in Florida, spare a day from the world made by Disney, and visit a real one; a world where history was made.

FAMILY EVENTS

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canton, mine gratisticae and A delly guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

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12" - 2" e " !! □ A DOLL'S HOUSE 155 superlands L. A DOLL'S HOUSE LIS JUPRAINED high enough for dank Molleer in Activity Page's first-back production or lause's participation di data Physhouse "Jamurated Ave. WC2 (317: 839 4401), Mgr. Sat, 7,30cm mat for a Share

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E QUITS AND DOLLS Rehald Ente aewes no production of the Frank Loesser musical limelda Staunton recreates her role of Mass Acielaid

NEW RELEASES

+ DAYLIGHT |12) Sylvester Station

 DAYLIGHT [12] Sylvester Statione restates a cross-section of humanity from a bitzong New York hume!
 Amusing old-style disaster movie Director Rob Cohen.
 ABCac Balter Street (0171-935 9772)
 Tottenhum Court Roset (0171-935 9772) 51(3) Erecia (050-058 990) Odero Seles Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Whiteleys & (0990 888690) Virgins: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Tracedero

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THROUGH THE OLDE TREES (JI) Aboas Karosam/s moving and lyncal Skn about inodents on an banian him set in aducatyside developed by at 6armiz.ake **Renok:** (0171-837 8402)

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BURY ST BOMINDS Tocate Poyal, Bury St Edmunds, in associal on with the Palace Theater Walford present this radioonal termin partitioning of Cindenalia Winter by Roy Hudd and decided by Diva Dundan Theater Royal Westgate Street (2)243 1995(5): Took Jamand Tom Jan 2-4 Com and Tom Jan 8 Tom Jan 9-11 Zom Jan 9-11 Z

CARDIFF SulFollard plays the life role is a guard among pantomine. Jack

and the Bearstoll. With this Doyle BBC Pape 2 b Don Markett. David Griffin Galdardt Spept and Zopy Gonge or Bunge from the children's resolution should be about the children's resolution should be about 1922 200889. They are should be about or of the financial Special S Also in Condit! Mark Mingres worth spreads the National Orchestra of Wales harmarong law years waters in a manney from the action of on prison. I this know, in Partiast Discribe non-Romes and July 11 to base by the compassin's Visin Concerts recleat learning from Cindo again, favouring service and solve. So the Strapps lamily concerts the orders man.

atimatels the programmic St David's Hall. The Haves (\$1222) 8784441 Tempto 7 Joseph LONDON GALLERIES

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DITION OFFICIAL TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS Anomer West End showing for the but: songles! by gurs in plack glasses. David Leand directs. Apollo, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-

PLUNDER Grif Rhys Jones and Keyn McNaby in merry (hough terrib) snobbish, Ben Travers farce With

Savoy Spand 7/02/0171-858 8885) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm mats Thurs and Sat,

E SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE Subtidled The Songs of Leiber and Stoller His Broadway complished those processing companions cross or borning to the range a subject of thomas Bog. Leftback Roberts and Spanion Hallem Prince of Walley, Country Sheet Williams Country Sheet Williams See See See See See. Thurs and Sat. Zom.

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CINEMA GUIDE

Georg Brown's atsetoment of films to London and (when indicated with the symbol •) on rolesse across the county

(Martin Landeu Genevieve Bujold) and ammetionics: Director Sieve Barron Widermann (0161-568 1176) ◆ THE CRAFT (15) High school

▼ a ma univer 1 (1a) Ingin school resiliz delve ara windowshi Recume tani enth bright momenta. With Ferrica Balik, Rober Tumner, director, Andrew Reming Wingin Treaddero Eg (1711–454 0231) Warner (0171–437 4343) . INCLEALL THE WAY (PG)

Aggressively American Chirshmas comedy, with Amold Schwarzenegger comedy, with Amold Schwarzaneger are as dar in search of a presidencia rotation to Colombia Characteristic (11426 914666). Mezzaniane St. (11426 914663). Serina Cottage (11426 914683). Pieza St. (1990 888960). UCI Whiteleys (1171-434 0031).

THE LONG KISS GOODWACKT (18) Preposterous hard-driven action movie, with Geena Davis as an armesec government assesso Gete (5) (0171-727 4(43) Odeonst Kensington (01426-914 666) Swiss

Cottage (0171-585 2057) Ritary (0171-737 2121) Virgina: Cheisee (0171-352 5006) Fushern Road (0171-370 3636) ero (10171-434 0031) ◆ MATTLDA (PG): Rould Dahl's fale

about a precocious girl (Missa Will who triumphs over pesky adulis. Denny October: Nationapport 1014;5914009) Ribby Berline Cordings (01426 914098) Ribby (0171-737 2121) UCT Whitnieys (5) (0900 866900; Virgins: Chebase (0171-352 5096) Treasders (5) (0171-434 (031) Warmer (0171-437 4343) ♦ 101 DALMATIANS (U) Gienn Close

imacks apols oif the dogs in the five-action edition of the carbon classic With Jelf Deniels and Joely Richardson Clephami Picture House (1/17)-498
\$123) Oddovar, Kenslington (01426-91466) Lelcastor Square (01426-915-683) Swiss Cottage (01426-914088) Bio (017)-536-6677, Ribby (0171-737-2121) Berreen/Balter Street (0171-836-677-2) UCI Whiteleys © (0900-88996) Veglasc Chelanti (0171-332-5996) Fullham Road (0171-370-7636) me (G171-498)

THE UNIFICELLAS OF CHIMBOURG THE LIMITECT LAS OF CHITIDATUS (PG): Spendid re wal of Jacques Derny a britan-sweet musical of 1964, gorgeously reduced in passet colours With Catherine Densarts
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Alan Coren



Thanks to clashing with the birthday of Jesus, my column, along with the rest of The Times, did not appear last Wednesday, Unfortunately, readers thus never saw the Grand Christmas Quiz I had compiled in order to help them through the Yuletide shenanigans. More unfortunately yet, the answers to that quiz had already gone to press for this Wednesday, so I am afraid you will just have to make of them what you can.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. 138 eggs and a herringbone overcoat. He died in Ghent, attended by most of the woodwind section and a tall ginger woman claiming to be a cousin of isambard Kingdom Brunel.

2. The sum of the squares of the other three sides, which explains why it fell over. The man charged with stoking the boilers was

3. 1-0 after extra time. The penalty was taken by Queen Victoria.

4. The so-called Cardboard Bastard Case. Both bishops were defrocked. The remains of the vole are now in the Natural History

5. The Sisters Karamazov. Dostoevsky put the manuscript in a left-luggage locker, but since he recorded the details in his diary only as: "It was on the - of -. in this year of grace 18-, that I deposited the envelope in the town of M--. at the coach station on the corner of D-- street," he never succeeded in finding it again.

6. Norman Lamont is the odd one out. All the rest are badgers.

7. Minus 38F, at which point it assumed an extraordinary resemblance to Selena Scott. Sadly, the temperature was such that none of the photographs came out, but the full story was recounted in a jingle which reached Number 7 in the Lapp charts.

8. A kind of whisky, made from conkers.

9. Because neither of them was gay, but this was not discovered until the contest was over. As the result, the Golden Laryngoscope was not awarded again until after the Great War, when it was open to Flemish speakers for the first time.

10. It forms part of Virginia Bottomley.

II. It was a picture postcard which led him to believe that the grave of Prester John lay beneath Euston Station. He escaped the dynamite charge on a technicality, and a Private Member's Bill was subsequently rushed through Parliament clarifying the wording on all platform rickets.

12. "Dear God, the very horses seem asleep!" Wordsworth changed the line only after

13. Pippin the Incontinent. The duel was interrupted six times under the terms of the Caspian Convention, and upon the final resumption it was discovered that the bowstrings had become irreparably slack due to sleet. Seconds settled the dispute by throwing coins into a chamber por.

14. Marlene Dietrich, because George Formby's turned out to be smaller.

15. A canteen of cutlery. The carnel was found in a Cheltenham hotel, but no satisfactory explanation was ever furnished as to why Scotland Yard assumed that the snooker cue belonged to Sir Stanley Baldwin.

16. "Ich bin ein Frankfurter." He was thrown into the Rhine.

17. Neither is correct: (a) would result in all clocks having to be reset to take account of the shift from left to right, while (b) would mean that only a coalition government would be in a position to petition the Royal

18. Exme3. He hanged himself from Brooklyn Bridge.

19. False. Although all three did claim to be David Mellor, it was only the Rastafarian who escaped through the window, the bidet was already cracked, and the dog did not answer to the name of Desmond Wilcox. 20. Wallis Sumpson. The ointment was

instantly withdrawn from sale.

21. Yes. he did: Irving de Gauile. He was in the gown business.

22. She trained moths.

23. They are the only birds to communicate

Michael Gove argues that the law is wrong: the Cromwell Street story should not be made into a film

Two years ago today in a Birmingham prison cell, Fred West took his own life. The Gloucester builder's final killing cheated his victims' families of justice and the nation of the satisfaction of a suitable catharsis. Now the slow, painful and imperfect process of healing for those who suffered in Gloucester - and beyond - has been crudely set back by an ugly conjunction of bureaucratic

crassness and commercial insensitivity. It is far more than the timing which is objectionable about the revelation of plans to make a film of the life and times of Fred West. The Official Solicitor may have a responsibility to look after the interests of the West children but it is hard to see how they are best advanced by negotiating to sell the film rights to their father's story. How the respected Portman Entertainment Group came to believe it could embark on a celluloid retelling of the events in Cromwell Street for profit must test even the most

Fred and Rosemary West were no ordinary murderers. Although Hollywood has done its worst to make the serial killer as cosily familiar a screen presence as the cowboy used to be, and despite the brutalising effect of evermore explicit violence, the real horror of Cromwell Street had a capacity to shock. and stop the heart seldom equalled since the war. Only, perhaps, the calculating sadism of Ian Brady and Myra Hindley stands comparison. The Wests chose the

Cinema screens out the real horror of violence

innocent, the vulnerable, their own flesh and blood for sexual violence and torture. Afterwards, bodies were disposed of with all the ceremony of unwanted refuse.

To imagine that their story could be told on the big screen is to grotesquely misunderstand the nature of their crime. It is true that murders have often been the stuff of film entertainment, crimes of passion or standard domestics. killings that occurred during armed robberies or calculated individual assassinations. But, although each taking of human life is unique and horrible there is something uniquely horrible about the scale, manner and mentality of the Wests' crimes. Only organisations or individ-uals who had forgotten how to feel could

It might be argued that there was merit in a story which has the capacity to make us reflect on the nature of evil and its persistence in our world being told by a responsible and professional film company such as Portman. Their professionalism and commitment to the highest production values is apparently all

Daphne du Maurier's Rebecca and Beryl Bainbridge's An Awfully Big Adventure. But it is precisely because any film would be made by a respectable company committed to cinematic excellence that the enterprise is so dangerous.

Cinema is, at its best, a simultaneously seductive and pasteurising art form. In the hands of a skilled director, and Portman would not entrust its reputation to anyone else, violence inevitably loses the capacity to truly horrify. When we read about violence such as the Wests' in the dry and suitably censored court reports imagination provides the horror and moral sense the revulsion. More than that, the chance to reflect and contextualise which we have while reading is denied us by the narrative sweep of the film and the distorting

focus of the lens.

No film could, conceivably, give a wider audience cause to reflect on the nature of evil and the carelessness with which society can forget those who slip through the safety net and into the wrong hands. Those with a mind to

had their consciences engaged by the press reporting and works such as Andrew O'Hagan's impressive study of lost souls, The Missing. Any film would, sadiy, and inevitably, attract only ghouls

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It would, however, from those sources alone, make money. And that is sadly the motivation, not just for Portman but also the Official Solicitor, Peter Harris. It was the Official Solicitor who made over Fred West's papers to the biographer Geoffrey Wansell for an "authorised" life of the killer. The justification was twofold. The first defence was that such a book would place on the record the doings, and thoughts, of West for posterity and as a warning. It might also displace in the market cruder accounts of the events in

Cromwell Street.
The second justification was a duty of care enjoined on the Official Solicitor by the nature of his office. He is bound to look after the financial affairs of the surviving West children. Their interests were served by the publication of the

book but would be considerably boosted by any film. Features at MGM, or even post-watershed hours on Carlton yield much larger sums than even the newsiest hardbacks in Waterstone's.

It would be wrong if the West children, in their own way victims of Cromwell Street, were to have their father's and mother's sins visited on them. They have suffered and should not be denied their due. But they have already received it.

The Wansell book, although lew could

ever find it diverting, will have given them an income which many would happily have denied them. Although its detail is repellent, the book is at least a soher medium and the style restrained. It cannot provide the gratuitous extra offence which a film, inevitably, would. Whatever extra money the West

children might enjoy from a film would be bought at the cost of continued. indeed intensified, pain for all those who still grieve. If the Official Solicitor persists in his intentions, he will be embarking on a course so hidebound by law and hard-hearted in effect as to test the satirical pen of a Dickens.

Censorship is a weapon which should only be used in war — and if anyone wishes, in the future, to make a film which charts the horrors of Cromwell Street, it would be wrong to use the law to stop them.

It is, however, insupportable that the law should be conspiring to see such a

At long last, peace in our time

shall start the year by chancing my arm. The world is more at peace today than ever before in living memory. In 1997 we contemplate a second year in which, for the first time since proverbial records began, nothing that could be called a state of hot war exists between sovereign countries. Guns are not firing across borders. Soldiers are not dying in their nation's cause. There are civil wars, drugs wars, gang wars and trade wars. But rip-roaring, sound-the-trumper, bang-the-drum wars of national aggression seem to have gone out of fashion. Nobody has noticed

The Stockholm Institute for Peace Research publishes a report each year on world conflicts. It has become a bible for arms salesmen, mercenaries, diplomats, United Nations staff and foreign reporters. The last yearbook mustered two dozen internal conflicts in such places as Afghanistan, Rwanda and Chechnya. The next update is likely to show a fall even in this category. (I believe the only artillery pieces currently being fired in anger are around Kabul.) There is plenty of international tension. as between China and Taiwan, India and Pakistan, and Iraq and its neighbours. The political meteorologist can find dark clouds over Bosnia. Zaire and Palestine. But this is hardly the stuff of

apocalyptic copy. Most years, statesmen and bishops queue up on Christmas Day to condemn conflicts and bloodshed and earnestly tell the world to behave better. This year. from the American President to the Pope, they were bereft of raw material. The Pope deplored "the clash of arms shattering the spell of peace brought by this holy day". But he gave no map reference and the phrase sounded like a papal stock-in-trade. In Britain the seasonal homilies of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal Hume were more than usually empty exercises in the why oh why" school of journalism.

Desperate to find something to deplore, the prelates this year accused the world, in George Carey's words, of being "adrift from its moral, historical and institutional roots". Dr Carey was not specific on these roots nor on the direction of drift, but to the best of my knowledge he ignored world peace. Welcoming goodness is not episcopal practice: it wins no headlines. Bishops share a public syndrome diagnosed by opinion pollsters, that Britain is in a state of automatic moral decline from which no amount of evidence (let alone

leadership) can possibly rescue it.
The 1995 British Social Attitudes survey showed every indicator pointing firmly to pessimism. The world was seen as more lawless, more violent and more devoid of hope with each passing year. An overwhelming preponderance of those surveyed believed that in the next ten years Britain would see street riots and political terrorism as "common

We should be celebrating a world without wars, whatever the prophets of doom say. Why curse our good fortune?



During the Spanish Civil War, a fighter dies. "War and the threat of war have always been a kind of solution"

events". The police would no longer be always been a kind of solution. They able to cope, criminality would be make ruling easy, and make philosophy widespread and, for good measure, a nuclear bomb would explode somewhere in the world. This pessimism reigned even where, as in poverty, prosperity and education, there is every sign of steady improvement.

We cannot handle good news. I believe this inability is becoming as morally debilitating as the readiness to absorb bad news. It makes us think worse of our fellow citizens and of foreign countries. We become less inclined to defend individual liberty against the encroachment of state power, since we believe that state power is necessary to counter mounting anarchy. Believing the enemies of civil order to be perpetually at our gates, we cede ever more control to our rulers to fight them.

In his poem Waiting for the Barbarians. Constantine Cavafy portrayed a city awaiting attack. The citizens gather in the public square. They unite. The consuls don scarlet robes. Evening comes, but not the barbarians. Suddenly the citizens are told there will be no attack. Indeed, some reports deny the existence of barbarians at all. The people go home morose, saying: "Without the barbarians; what is to become of us? After all, they would have been a kind of

solution. War and the threat of war have

Historians such as Marx and Spengler adopted a pessimistic view of history to validate authoritarian politics. Despite a proclaimed rightward shift over the past decade, anti-state ideology has been more apparent than real. Like Paylov's dogs, democrats tend to salivate

Simon Tenkins

most in response to danger. Hegel and Hobbes have always had a better press than Tocqueville or Nozick. When more modern historians suggest that conflicts between states might be at an end, or that the collapse of the Soviet Union was a triumph for world peace, an avalanche of odium descends on them. Francis Fukuyama's declaration, that social democracy had not only won the argument but had possibly ended var, was excoriated as naive optimism. When a rival historian, Paul Kennedy,

replied (in Preparing for the Twenty-first Century) that the world faced catastrophe through overpopulation, pollution, mass migration and ozone depletion, he was lauded as a prophet. Equally exalted are pundits as diverse as Sam Huntington and The Economist when they predict world war between Muslim and Christian regions of the globe. Such views accord with the bad news that we read in the newspapers. Disaster must be at hand. There is no intellectual closed shop as pervasive or tight-knit as

the pessimistic theory of history.

I recall the manager of an airline once complaining that his safety record was impeccable, yet nobody ever mentioned it in the media. A journalist replied that this was hardly surprising, since his planes persistently failed to crash. He was boring. Last year the world failed to crash and was thus declared boring. We honour war but have no way of honouring its absence. The world does not give itself a collective Nobel Peace

Time was when commentators were castigated as "soft on communism". Today they are damned for being soft on gloom. The pessimist has all the best tunes - and the richest friends. The think-tanks that pour out dire warnings about aggressive regimes usually have fat contracts with defence ministries. Two massive interest groups have an

aversion to news of peace. One is the arms industry and its booming subsidiary in internal security. The other is supranational diplomacy and so-called non-government organisations. Both grow fat warning of apocalyptic military and ecological conflicts. Both see optimism as a threat to their status and

prosperity.
Eisenhower's "military-industrial complex long exaggerated Soviet armed might and aggressive intent. The same complex now promotes evidence of so-called international terrorism and presents every civil war as having a "out-of-area destabilising effect". Its power to order the New Interventionism on parade was evident in Somalia and Bosnia. It promotes spendirig on arms and spending on international organisations. It periodically sends a cruise missile into Iraq.

The nadir of the alliance between the

military and diplomatic intervention came with last autumn's near miss in Zaire. Amid diplomatic hysteria, 3,000 British soldiers were almost sent into the Zairean jungle, with no military objective beyond spending gargantuan amounts of money and yielding politicians some pride.

The same lobby cheered the choice of Kon Annan as Secretary-General of the United Nations, Wherever Mr Annan treads, the Pentagon is never far behind.

There is much misery in the world and always will be. The absence of international conflict may have led to a rise in civil and separatist wars. But if an occasional civil war is the price of world peace, it is a price I am ready to pay. The danger is not that such conflicts will spread, but that they will act as magnets to transient intervention from the UN or Nato countries under the cloak of humanitarian intervention. Witness the antics of the Americans in Beirut, the Germans in Croatia and the French in Zaire.

Of course, optimism has its risks. The perfect soldier is, as Tolstoy said, the most idle. He deters battle merely by existing. But this must not delude us that he is not needed. The world's democracies must stay on guard. Nor is there any danger of the defence lobby allowing this case to go unheard. Military spending is still huge. What we find so hard is to acknowl-

edge the current success of that spending. Peace seems invisible and therefore unaccountable. The West's response to Rwanda - the nearest we came to internationalising and exacerbating a civil war - saw a yearning for battle, an irrational, almost desperate desire to intervene. It was as if inaction was in danger of putting diplomats and generals, statesmen, bishops and journalists out of work.

Swords into ploughshares is boring. Ploughshares mean food mountains. Swords still mean glory.

Rod runner

PATIENCE is a virtue seldom seen in rock stars. Rod Stewart, it seems, was unable to sit through Monday night's premiere of A Streetour Named Desire at the Haymarket Theatre. Admittedly, at three hours long. Tennessee Williams's play can be the theatrical equivalent of a musty, fat paperback. But with Jessica Lange on top form in her West End debut, Stewart's decision to bail out at half time was particularly feeble. Rude to boot,



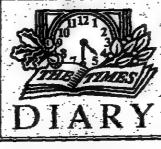
Theatre parting: the Stewarts

promoters of the play for tickets. Even Mrs Stewart, the model Rachel Hunter, whose reputation rests more upon her physical attributes than her academic abilities, stayed the course. For once, Stewart could not attribute his early exit to excessive perspiration inside his usual leather trousers, as he had donned a pinstripe suit for the evening. It seems it was plain

boredom, with hunger thrown in. During the interval, the Stewarts and two friends holed up in the cloakroom by the stalls bar for a conference. Dinner was mooted by Stewart, only for the subject to be dismissed by his wife.

When the bell rang for the second half. Rod and his friend had decided. As the ushers encouraged everyone back in. Mrs Stewart returned to her seat while her husband told her. If anyone asks, tell them I've got a dicky stomach." And with that he paused, checked the coast was clear and hopped it.

 ◆ DESPITE undergoing surgery to remove a malignant tumor from his right lung last month, Czech President Václav Havel is still in need of encouragement to kick his



lifelong smoking habit. To that end. Havel's aides have urged him to include a public pledge to quit in his traditional new year's broadcast.

All a-quiver

A FRIEND suffering from heavy flu was visiting the Louvre over Christmas. Pausing in the ISth-century section to admire a portrait of Diderot, she was alarmed to discover that the grand old man of letters was also shivering violently as if he, too, was in the grip of a terri-

Steadying herself on the arm of the nearest attendant, she pointed at the vibrating picture and asked if she was seeing things: "Oh non, madame," he reassured her. "Zat is zee air-conditioning, it has a leetle problem." The system is to be fixed

in the new year, until which time the old masters will keep shuddering on their picture hooks.

Another Man of the Year title for the Prime Minister, this time from the Midlands. "Major won the title fair and square," said a staggered Ed Doolan, whose Sunday morning show on BBC Radio West Midlands featured the poll. A call of congratulation to Conservative Central Office: "We're delighted," they said. "especially as we knew nothing about it."

Noble gas

FIRST in the queue for the tide "Fat Head of 1997" is Joseph Sickert, 72, the self-styled HRH Prince Joseph. Duke of Clarence. Yesterday he cropped up at the funeral of Dame Elizabeth Hill, former Professor of Slavonic Studies at Cambridge University and escapee from the Russian Revolution, purporting to represent the Romanovs, the Russian Royal Family.
Using Dame Elizabeth's funeral

as a pretext, he sent out a press release from his Camden home stressing his claim to the titles. No matter that the last Duke of Clarence. Queen Victoria's grandson. died childless in 1992. "He had a daughter called Al-

ice," said the ducal hopeful. "and

can prove it," he says. As evidence, he offers a fax purportedly from "Grand Duke Michael Alexevich of Russia", addressed to "our right trusty and well-beloved cousin". Soft cell

she married my father, Walter." You mean Walter Sickert, the Cam-

den impressionist who married three times, although never to a woman called Alice? "That's right. I

CRATER-FACE, aka General Ma-

nuel Noriega, the former Panama-



"I refuse to do Trafalgar Square next year

oirs, to be called America's Prisoner: The Memoirs of Manuel Noriega. He has written about life in the Metropolitan Correctional Facility, Miami, for At Random, the in-house magazine of his pub-lisher, Random House. Life, he says, is not so bad in chokey. Fellow prisoners call him "Manny" and he watches a lot of television. "I watch more TV than I would care to admit." he says. "Even considering the fact that it is largely a frivolous exercise, it does provide a window on American popular culture." Wildlife programmes and linedancing shows are his favourities. Among the various magazines he receives in jail is a regular copy of Men's Health, an organ designed for men whose life revolves around their stomach muscles.

nian dictator, has been spending

his time in prison writing his mem-

Frankie's way

REVENGE at last for the twin curse of Demis Roussos and Nana Mouskouri, perpetrators of the dolmades sound which blighted Woolworth's record departments for so long. To bring in 1997, Greek television last night featured Frankie Dickens, the East End Frank Sinaura impersonator and second cousin of Dame Vera Lynn... Dickens, pictured here poised for

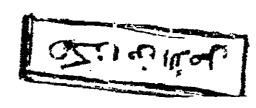


Big in Athens: Frankie Dickens

a doo-be-doo, made his name singing in Athenian nightclubs. American businessmen then took to him and paid hefty sums for him to appear at corporate events. "I'm the first British Sinatra since Matt Monro," he says. "But isn't it just typical that I have to go to Greece before making it at home?"

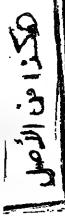
For the Greeks, Dickens per formed his new song, This side of Town, as well as Sinatra standards. After listening to the new single, I recommend that Dickens should receive a lottery grant for more travel overseas. America still needs paying back for John Denver.

CARY



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Jon Ashworth and Paul Durman on BZW's woes

Pressure time at securities house

arclays de Zoete Wedd (BZW), the securities house has dismissed speculation about the future of Simon de Zoete, the semior director who led the ill-fated detence of Northern Electric. The Takeover Panel row, coupled with a poor showing in the 1996 mergers and acquisitions league, has left BZW awkwardly placed for the

Mr de Zoete, who reputedly earns more than El million a year in his role as a vice-chairman of-BZW, was directly implicated in the Takeover Panel's decision to extend the bid for Northern.

The extension gave CE Electric of America crucial time in which to muster enough shares to claim victory. The panel said BZW did not disclose its entitlement to a £250,000 discretionary fee - on top of a £1.5 million flat fee - when it sought late permission to buy Northern shares. The subsequent purchase of a stake of more than 2 per cent was crucial to the North-

Mr de Zoese was not present at the Takeover Panel meeting during which BZW was accused of being selective in its disclosure. He was in Scotland on business, and only noted a reference to a flat fee. The panel's ruling was faxed to him the following day. He returned to London that evening for a meeting with BZW's lawyers. A panel member was not contacted until 10.15pm.

It is not clear who represented BZW in Mr de Zoete's absence. He could not be contacted yesterday. BZW said his future with the firm was secure, and dismissed suggestions to the contrary as "malicious

Mr de Zoete is one of the City's most experienced hands. Chair-man of BZW Equities since March 1994, he advised Granada on its bids for both LWT and Forte. Headvised on BTR's £2.06 billion bid for Nylex; Pearson's £600 million BSkyB stake disposal; GEC's £835 million bid for VSEL; and BTR's E2.1 billion bid for Hawker

Siddeley. Mr de Zoete is a great nephew of Johnny Bevan, senior parmer of de Zoete & Bevan, which was acquired by Barclays in 1986. He joined de Zoete & Bevan in 1966, making general partner three years later, and rose to become chairman of de Zoete & Bevan in



Simon de Zoete, a BZW vice-chairman, was implicated in the Takeover Panel's decision to extend the bid for Northern Electric

its later role as the corporate transaction was taking place, we broking arm of BZW. would not have ensured that the . The Northern affair has met with .

a mixed response. One senior merchant banker said: "I feel very, very sorry for BZW. I think they've been harshly treated. It's bad luck that they did not make full disclosure at the first opportunity. I don't know why they did not, but I don't believe it was for any malign

He said that Mr de Zoete's absence must have been a factor. adding: "It's BZW's fault for not being able to put all the facts on the table the first time round. Simon de Zoete was up in Scotland and he's taken a lot of flak. Why the hell wesn't be them?

relevant directors who knew what was happening were present. BZW have brought it upon themselves."

Northern bid was not in itself unusual. Clients frequently agree tional fee if their work on a deal is exceptionally good or effective: The affair comes at a sensitive

in relation to the

time for BZW, which did not fare investment banks have got to be well in the annual Acquisitions much cleaner on fees." The North-"I cannot imagine that, where a Monthly survey of mergers and ern incident increases pressure on

acquisitions advisers. It was ranked thirteenth, having worked on £5.7 billion of deals in 1996. Philip Healey, editor of Acquisitions Monthly, thinks the bad The pledging of an additional fee impression created by the North-

ern Electric row could hamper NORTHERN BZW's attempt to ELECTRIC build up its cor-"Unfortunately, today, bad media coverage

stays much longer (in the minds of chients] than it used to. UK

BZW's chief executive, Bill Harrison, who took office in September. He was brought in as successor to David Band, who died in March while on a skiing holiday. Mr Harrison's remuneration — including a guaranteed £1.25 million bonus in his first year - attracted further unwelcome publicity for the firm. Donald Brydon resigned as deputy chief executive when Mr Harrision joined.

Mr Healey says BZW has one chance to get it right. He said: This is really their last chance to make it big in mergers and acquisitions. If they can't do it in the takeover boom of the next year to 18 months. they never will do. But BZW will do. well, because Bill Harrison is a

Opportunities Down Under lure investors

UK banks are tipped to take a look

at Australia, says Rachel Bridge

mong British companies learning to say "G'day. mate" in 1996, as more UK firms headed for Australia, were PowerGen and National Power. The electricity generators, both led consortia to snap up power stations for A\$24 billion apiece in the state of Victoria's big electricity self-off.

British Aerospace also made its presence felt, acquiring AWA Defence Industries, one of Australia's largest defence com-panies, and winning a A\$900 million (£450 milion) contract to supply trainer jets to the Australian air force.

Others making forays included Grand Metropolitan, which bought the Pasta House fresh pasta business for A\$100 million; Premier Oil. which successfully bid for Discovery Petroleum at a cost of AS107.8 million: Daily Mail and General Trust, which bought a string of radio stations: and Chubb Security, which acquired a fire protection business or A\$220 million.

Marks & Spencer caused a huge stir Down Under by saying that it intended to open its first two stores in Australia in 1997. Companies from continental

Europe were at it, 100, AXA, the French insurance group, secured a 51 per cent stake in National Mutual, the insurer, and the Dutch transport company KPN spent A\$2

billion to acquire TNT.

A Sydney consultant advising UK and US companies says that overseas players are attracted by Australia's combination of a skilled multilingual workforce. sound economic fundamentals and a growing middle class and its handy position as a stepping stone into Asia. The secret of success, he says, is to invest in the right sectors, with media and telecommunications turning into no-go areas for foreign investors. He says: "You realty have to separate out the politically sensitive investments from the others because there is no question that walls are being quietly erected in some areas such as media to protect Australia's interests " Indeed, one person booking

out was Conrad Black, the Canadian media magnate, who sold Fairfax, the Australian press group, in frustration at the Government's refusal to let him increase his shareholding.

The past year has also seen big differences in the performance of particular sectors. Peter Horn. economist with SBC Warburg, says that although overall GDP growth has been running at 3.5 per cent, the Australian economy effectively two-speed, with mining and telecommunications chalking up 5 to 6 per cent growth and retailing stuck at 1.5

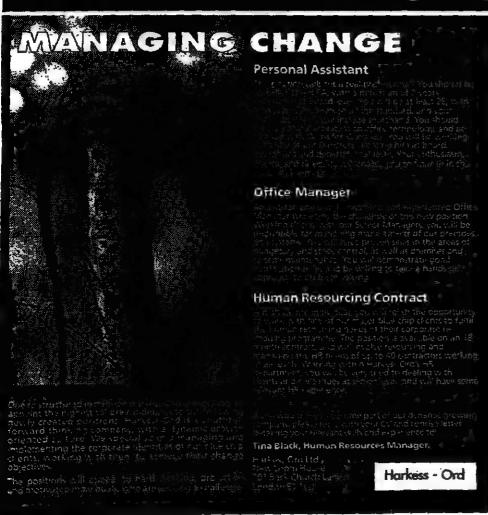
Another factor affecting investment is the view that the Coalition Government, which came to power in March, lacks the resolve to push through industrial

The sectors to watch in 1997, say analysts, will be min-ing and banking. A major report into banking — due by March — is expected to relax restraints on ownership, paving the way for takeovers and mergers. Bank of Scotland last year took over, for A\$900 million, BankWest, and analysts expect Australia's largest banks, ANZ, Westpac and National Australia, to be scrutinised by potential British buyers in 1997.

Mining is seen as ripe for takeover activity, with a falling gold price and the need for consolidation to rationalise its cost structure.

Hoping for action in 1997 are BAA, the British airport operator, National Express and Serco, the facilities management group, which are waiting for Australia's much-heralded A\$4 billion airport privatisation. In 1997, apparently, it really will happen.





re all the best opportunities really in the cities?

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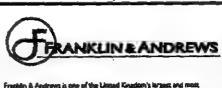
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Michael Clark on the market's winners and losers in 1996

FT-SE sticks to the high road

he London stock market ended 1990 just as it began the year — on a high note. At the start of the year the FT-SE 100 index was at 3,087.9. There were some who said it could never last. that equities were running ahead of events, but, 12 months later, it is again nudging new highs, closing last night at 4,118.5, a rise on the year of 11.7 per cent. Undeterred by low interest rates. confidently ploughed their money into the equity market where they were quick to reap the benefits. of a strong economy.

It was a year when the massed ranks of the utility companies continued to be snapped up by predators and Granada turned its attention to Forte in what became one of the most acrimonious bid battles in living memory. Levels of bid speculation continued to intensify towards the end of the year promising, hopefully, a lively start to 1997.

Some of the capital gains achieved by the high-flyers in 1996 can only be described as staggering. Winning hands down with a leap of 680 per cent from 4012p to 38612p was Blacks Leisure, the sportswear retailer, which benefited from the boom in sportswear

fashion. Profits last year soared more than fivefold to £3.9 million as the clamour for popular brand names such as Nike, Reebok and Adidas intensified. Blacks ourpaced bigger rivals such as Olympus. Sears' ill-fated sports retail chain. The man behind Blacks' revival was Simon Bentley, chairman. who joined the company back in 1989. He improved performance by shedding the footwear operations and the Miss Sam women's wear wholesaler.

In fact, the Blacks performance was so strong that it was more than 80 per cent up on its nearest challenger, Jarvis. the building and construction group, which finished the year 506 per cent up at 1422 p.

One deal secured Jarvis's future - its acquisition of British Rail's Northern Infrastructure Maintenance division in June. for £9 million. The returns were immediate with the group posting a ninefold increase in pre-tax two years ago the struggling construction company was deep in the red. It did not take



Simon Bentley engineered a staggering 680 per cent leap in the Blacks Leisure share price

Neville Buch helped to lift BBB Design

Mike Firth experienced an 81 per cent fall

September.

side, scoring straight from the

kick-off after its flotation in

The shares finished the year

at £38,500 each, a leap of 487

per cent. It is a pity that the

group has not been able to

maintain that sort of success

It was inevitable that with

the pay-per-view revolution

1996 that other football clubs

would also benefit. The trickle

of clubs applying for a listing



Martin Edwards saw success off the field the City long to realise the

benefits to the group of the

BBB Design put in a late

surge to finish in third spot

with a jump of 416 per cent to

772p after Neville Buch an-

nounced plans to take a near 30 per cent stake in the group.

Mr Buch built up Blenheim

Exhibitions before it was sold

months ago. Clearly the mar-

task with BBB Design

in fourth and fifth place respectively were Ferrum Holdings — up 366 per cent from just 112p to 7p after the Walsall engineering group re-turned to the black for the first time in four years - and Abacus Recruitment, also returning to the black and seeing its price soar from 18p to

8412p. a rise of 369 per cent. for some of the heavier price issues with Celtic, the AIM- prices of the more established clubs improved with leaps and

Naturally enough, Manchester United, whose chief executive is Martin Edwards, led the way with a jump into eighth place as the price rose 240 per cent to 667p closely followed by rival Tottenham Hotspur, up 178 per cent at 624p, in twenty-first slot.

The market as a whole may have enjoyed a record breaking run, but there were still some casualties on the way. The worst performing share of 1996 was Clubpartners International, the group which runs golf courses, its price collapsed this year by 92 per cent from 3lp to 212p.

Late last year the price stood at 13p but tumbled to 2¹2p after the company announced it had received a bid at below the ruling price. In fact, after its failure to acquire The Drift Golf Club, potential suitors are discussing an offer price in the region of just ip a share.

Lionheart, the paint brushes and home-improvement group, which used to call itself pong, was an early casualty of 1996 after following up heavier losses with details of a drastic restructuring programme. It made the group the second biggest loser of the year with a drop from 73p to 734p or almost 90 per cent.

 emory Corporation, which sells repaired microchips, saw its stock market value come tumbling down after the price for perfect microchips on world markers also dived from \$400

Increased losses and a boardroom reshuffle followed. The company, which at one stage was worth £360 million, is now capitalised at just £44 million. Its shares finished 85 per cent down at 60p.

Profit warnings and news of owing losses littered 1996. The economy may have been going from strength to strength, but companies still struggled.

Among the casualties were Applied Distribution, down 79 per cent at 40p, Haemocell, 85 per cent down at 334p, Jacques Vert, 82 per cent off at 3212p, and Telspec, the electronic equipment specialist, 772 per Food Group, whose chairman is Mike Firth, was down 81 per



London shares end year at record high

prices on the London stock market ended the last day of 1996 at their highest levels

It was, however, hardly the rip-roaring performance that some investors had been hop-ing for. The FT-SE 100 index closed 28 up, at an all-time high of 4,118.5, having briefly touched an intra-day high of 4,123.2 after recovering from an opening fall of almost seven points. That is a rise of 11.7 per cent, or 429.2 points, on last year's closing level of 3,689.3 and far short of the 20.3 per cent rise enjoyed by investors in 1995. The FT-SE mid 250 also rose 11.6 per cent year-on-year, to 4,490.4.

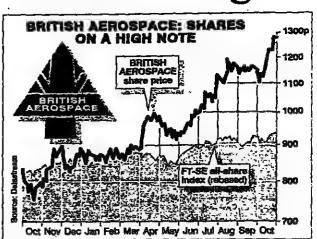
Turnover was the lowest of the year, with a meagre 204 million shares having changed hands by the close of the shortened trading session. Of the top 100 shares, 57 closed up on the day, 34 were down and nine were unchanged. The biggest gain was in Redland, up 6½p, or 1.81 per cent, at 366½p as a total of 468,815 shares were traded.

Another big mover among the top 100 was Enterprise Oil, lip better, at 6482p, on the back of revived bid hopes, a strong oil price and the cold

British Acrospace managed to hold on to the previous day's strong gains, ending the session 4p dearer at £12.80. Some brokers take the view that the group could build on its recent achievements in 1997. Construction of a new range of Airbus jumbo jets will benefit the group, which has a 20 per cent stake in the Airbus Industrie consortium. There is also persistent talk of a link-up with GEC after the recent armouncement of the £8 billion merger between Boeing and McDonnell Douglas. GEC was Ip easier, at 382p.

BTR, up 3p at 284p, has also been enjoying support on the back of new year share tips. The price lost ground in 1996, but is expected to benefit from restructuring proposals re-

Other companies enjoying a good showing on the form card, and likely to attract



institutional support in 1997, included Cortecs Internation al, up. 8½ p at 184p, Biocompatibles International, 20p dearer at 820p. Blacks Leisure, 21 p higher at 386 pp, Close Brothers, 22 p up at 359p, and the former high-flyer Microvitec, up 33 p

at 282 p, having crashed from a peak of of 714p during the first few weeks of 1996. The decision to scrap paying a dividend brought an initial dip in the price of Rossmont before it recovered to close allsquare at 6p. Brokers said that the group's up-heat comments about future prospects helped to save the day. The building

materials group says that the acquisition of Dunham-Bush will enhance long-term growth considerably and provide scope to make further acquisitions in the medium However, the continuing pressed conditions of the building industry, and cut-backs in local authority

spending, have hit the group's two main subsidiaries hard. Dunham-Bush made a loss, and Santric achieved only a small profit. Overall last year, the group achieved a small deficit of E222,000, against a profit last time of £209,000. GWR rose 32p to 1872p

after hitting the acquisition an agreed bid for Hereford and Worcester's leading comvern, for almost £4 million. The deal values shares in Radio Wyvern at 755p each.

The battle for control of the property group UK Estates, unchanged at 2612p, has stepped up a gear with the predator Ashquay demanding answers to a number of questions. Ashquay has a bid on the table at the moment, valuing UK Estates at £21.1 million. However, it wants to know why the board of UK Estates spent £520,000 buying back the company's own shares for its employee share trust and not for its shareholders. Harry Sproule, Ashquay's chief executive, described it as an abuse of of power by using the company's money in such

MAID, the publishing group, was steady at 2012 p after the resignation of Bill Nash as director of informa-

tion and technology.

GILT-EDGED: Prices closed mixed on the final day of the year, with the shortened session deterring investors from opening fresh positions. Instead, fund managers con-centrated on book-squaring before making an early start for the new year festivities.

In the futures pit, business slumped to its lowest level of the year, with just 4,000 contracts completed as the March series of the long gilt closed all-square at £1091516. 2015 gained £116 to £10334. In shorts. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 slipped E¹32 to El0234.

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Wall Street money machine ends year with a flourish

Richard Thomson

looks at the

remarkable performance of

the Dow Jones

s the remarkable year of 1996 drew to a close. a substantial number of fund managers, investment bankers and stockbrokers on Wall Street were suffering from what can only be described as acrophobia - a dread of being ut a great height.

It was not because they were standing on their windowsills wondering whether to jump but because they could hardly believe how much money they were making from the stock market. This appears to have triggered another serious condition: vertigo, a dizzy, confused state of mind.

It is probably fair to say that at the start of the year no one on Wall Street expected the stock market to rise to its present heights. During 1995 the Dow Jones industrial average hit 5,100, a 35 per cent rise, in the third year of a bull market and it seemed absurd to expect much more. The bravest analysts predicted 5,800 at the end of 1996.

But to general astonishment the Dow sailed through that level in the summer, surged on to 6,000 by autumn, and ended the year above 6.500 -- a rise of more than 25 per cent. In the process it broke all previous bull-market records for a continuous rise without a 10 per cent correction. Its buoyancy gave heart to most of the rest of the world's stock markets, which also rose strongly in the Dow's wake, Yet beneath all the exuber-

rent of concern. There was no agreement on why the market was so strong, how long it would last or whether it was going too far. As the year wore on, concern gave way to bewilderment - and fear. The year began by living up

to the predictions. Share

ance there was an undercur-



Alan Greenspan, of the Fed, hinted at losing touch with reality

prices bounced around like a superball, but made little overall headway. Some experts such as Jeffrey Vinik, manager of Fidelity's Magelian Fund, the largest mutual fund in the US, even dared to turn bearish. He moved a large part of the \$55 billion fund out of stocks into bonds. It made sense: the market was beginning to look overvalued, corporate profit growth was expected to slow down. The bull market seemed to be over. But it wasn't. By the end of

winter it was clear that Mr Vinik had missed out on the continuing rise in stock prices and he came in for bitter criticism. Eventually he re-signed, but the moral of his fall was not lost on other fund managers, who concluded that the only safe thing to do as long as shares showed any strength was to keep buying. However sceptical they might be about the Dow's rise they simply could not afford to ignore it. That by itself did a lot to support prices. in May the Dow peaked at

5,778 and then started to slide.

A sell-off began that almost turned into a panic as inves-tors worried that the long-feared correction had arrived. But after a 7 per cent drop, the decline petered out and prices stabilised. Buyers picked up stock cheaply and prices started to rise again. Then came November. For no easily discernible reason

the market suddenly took off in a frenzy of buying and the Dow shot up 492 points, or 8.2 per cent, to breach 6,500. The acrophobia grew worse. This was a record year in America for private invest-ment in the stock market.

Baby-boomers now moving into middle age have been pumping pre-retirement money into the stock market at the rate of about \$20 billion a month for more than a year. More than \$220 billion has gone into mutual funds and almost all went straight into stocks. That dwarfs the rate of private investment in the market for any previous period.

Although the private inves-

tors' contribution represents

only a small fraction of the

Ten years ago mutual funds accounted for about 18 per cent of turnover, but in 1996 that share rose to nearly half.

tion, it has had a crucial effect.

indeed, the buying frenzy has been so intense that some analysts believe the market's rise can be attributed almost entirely to the mentality of private investors and fund managers. "It's all psychology," said Michael Metz, equity strategist for Oppenheimer. For the past few hundred points the market has been fuelled by the simple fact that it is going up. If you're going to keep your job as a professional money manager, you have got to be in there."

And that, as everyone who lived through the crash of 1987 knows, is when markets turn into bubbles. After the November surge, vertigo became the dominant feeling. In early December Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, indicated he thought the market was losing touch with reality, which threw not only New York but London, Tokyo and handful of other markets into a panic. Yet again, prices recovered, but days when the Dow seesawed by 70 points or more became commonplace in the run-up to Christmas.

habit did not desert the market. On December 19 the Dow soared 126.87 points to 6,473.64, the highest single day's rise since October 21, 1987. The herd mentality seemed to be at work again. A symptom of nervousness. however, was that investors went for blue-chip shares, so that while the Dow rose fast other areas did not keep up.

The pre-Christmas surge ended a breathtaking year with a flourish. Naturally, no one is complaining about the profits they have made and no one wants to bail out of the money machine prematurely. But the underlying doubts remain. Mr Metz said: "A lot of people are waiting for an excuse to jump out of the pool." The question is what it will be and when it will come.

NEW YORK: American stocks took a tumble after reports of high consumer confidence and strength in sales of new homes startled the financial markets. Blue chips were off their session lows, but still

weak in quiet early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 19.22 to 6,530.15 after slowly climbing off a 30-point deficit. Technology shares showed slight



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of sha

Lang vercomes CBI stand against social chapter

Politicians warned over pay inflation

INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CHAMBERS of commerce today warn an incoming gov-ernment of whichever political persuasion to take action if necessary against signs of wage inflation in order toprevent any return to boom and bust economic cycles.

With a general election now only months away, business leaders are gearing them-selves up for what they believe will be a ferocious political argument - including preparing themselves for a possible change of administration.

Business

supports.

union with

Europe

By PHILLP BASSETT

INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS leaders are to give

strong support for Britain's

full participation in Europe. The support will come in a study of the UK's competitive

business performance to be published this month by the Commission on Public Policy

The commission, set up by

the centre-left Institute for

Public Policy Research, is to

put forward a range of policy

recommendations, including

proposals on corporate tax

and governance, and on the

minimum wage and the Euro-

pean social chapter.

The findings have been outlined to the Government.

Labour party and business

leaders. In particular, just before Christmas, commission

members met officials from

the Cabinet Office's Competi-

The unit is currently work

ing on a fourth competitive ness White Paper, which will be published after the election

if the Conservatives are re-

turned to government. It is significant that the unit is maintaining contacts with the commission, which though in-

dependent is seen as having

In its draft report, the com-mission says that the growth

and development of the European Union is "of central importance" to British busi-

ness, with many government

policies of importance to business having to be pursued at

The commission, which includes the heads of Sains-

bury's, GEC, and British Aerospace, will caution that

goods and capital will move

ncreasingly freely within the

EU, and companies will be

increasingly ready to locate

anywhere within it on purely

Insisting that business and

government in the UK must always bear in mind the impact

of policy on other European

countries and Britain's rela-

tions with them, the commis-

sion will say: "We can perhaps seek to opt in or out of

particular initiatives in a vari-

able geometry' Europe, but we

cannot escape the need to work

closely with our European

partners and assist them in

building a new sort of political and economic union which is

acceptable to all its members."

the EU level.

economic factors.

close links to Tony Blair.

and British Business.

Board of Arade, pectorage a new communical from this ness to opposing the Historial chapter which a Labour government would sign in our ending the UK option from its Mr Lang said that this clearly showed the aligned merests of business and the Conservatives, and the sol-lowness of Labour's claims to

owness of Labour's Chines to be the party how classes to husiness. He said The Conservative Party is the party of business and the CBIs policy priorities are our priorities. They show that Labour's claim to be; the party of business are a fraud. ian Lang. President of the ... Mr Lang was responding to are in the interests of the

the CBI's new year statement, which made clear its opposition to the social chapter, and no Labour's proposed windfall tax on privatised utilities.

Sir Colin Marshall, CBI President, insisted on BBC Radio yesterday that the CBI's position was one of political neutrality. Asked whether he feared an economy run by Tony Blair, the Labour leader, and Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancelior, Sir Colin replied. So long as the policies adopted by the Labour Party - if it were to form the next government — are not at variance with what we believe country from a business and industry standpoint." Chambers of commerce

leaders say today that there will be no economic room in Britain this year for missed opportunities. Regardless of the election, 1997 will be the year for the UK to capitalise on its strong competitive position, which will be possible provided the economy remains stable and there are no "sudden" changes of policy, chambers leaders say. Sound economic management must remain the UK's main aim.

this happen. Ian Peters, deputy director general of the British Cham-bers of Commerce, says today

Government's Health and in a new year message that the Safety Commission election "provides the opportuyesterday. nity for business to set out its priorities - and for politicians

to demonstrate that they are listening".
Whichever political party wins the election, the chambers say, priority must be given to education and training. Dr Peters says: "Skill shortages are already an unwelcome feature of the recovery, with all the implications they carry for wage inflation and a return to boom and bust. We cannot let

☐ Companies should make a new year resolution to tackle health problems at work, the

Frank Davies, HSC chairman, said: "More people.are working now than for many years, but fewer people are being injured or killed in accidents at work. It is good news that workplaces have been gening saler. But what is not such good news is that workplaces do not seem to be getting healthier."

He said 2.2 million people suffer from ill-health that they believe has been caused by work, with occupational illhealth costing the economy up

Trading in **Hong Kong** fund halted

BY GAVEN LUMSDEN

TRADING in the split capital Hong Kong Investment Trust was temporarily suspended yesterday as 750 shareholders voted on wind-up proposals from Jupiter International Group, the fund's manager.

Most zero-preference shareholders, representing half of the £28 million trust's assets, voted for cash, having seen their investment more than double from 20p at the fund's launch in 1991 to 43p.

.However, Jupiter said that it had retained the bulk of ordinary shareholders who over the past five years have been rewarded by a neartrebling of net asset value from 24p to 60p.

Jupiter said that around 60 per cent of ordinary shareholders, holding £8.4 million, opted to invest in the Hong Kong Investment Company, a closed end Luxembourg-based fund due to be launched soon by Jupiter.

Analysts said Jupiter had found the split capital structure of Hong Kong Investment Trust too difficult to manage, particularly as it creates conflicts of interest between the different shareholders towards the end of a fund's life Holders of the remainder of

the ordinary shares, equiva-lent to £5.6 million, chose to invest in the Hong Kong portion of the existing Jupiter Tyndall Global Fund.

Move to revive **High Court** tussle with BA

By Fraser Nelson

THE High Court battle between British Airways and John Gorman, who is accusing the airline of har-assment and dirty tricks, is set to resume in the new year as he mounts a fresh attempt to have the case reinstated.

Mr Gorman is to reappear in the High Court again on February 13, lodg-ing appeal documents to reopen his action against BA, in which he is suing for damages after allegedly swallowing glass in an in-flight meal from London to New York.

The appeal comes two months after a judge dis-missed his action after Mr Gorman failed to appear in

Mr Gorman is claiming that the airline led the court to believe that he was on holiday in Majorca at the time of the trial, and that the matter was dismissed on unfair grounds.

He intends to provide medical certificates to prove he was not on holiday, but suffering from a serious illness in a hospital in Tenerife, where he now lives for health reasons. British Airways denied the allegations, saying it had never disputed that Mr Gorman was in Tenerife.

A spokesman for BA said that if Mr Gorman succeeded in having the case reopened it would press for an urgent hearing date rather than allow a three-year delay that had held back the case so far. This is the first of two cases

that Mr Gorman is bringing against British Airways. He is also suing the airline and the Metropolitan Police for harassment and physical abuse that he claims to have suffered at the hands of both. He said that he received a

series of threatening phone calls, which he claims have since been traced to the airline's head office.

British Airways admits that calls have been made from its office to Mr Gorman's number, but says they could have been made by Mr Gorman's friends who had access to their phone network.

The action alleging harassment is not expected to start until the end of the year.

Rossmont results offer little cheer

By Paul Durman

ROSSMONT, the maker of vandal-proof lavatories was the only quoted company to disturb the City's preparations for new year parties by issuing its trading results yesterday.

The company — market value £2.5 million — had little seasonal cheer for its shareholders. It cancelled its dividend after reporting further losses of £222,000, a little higher than last year. The loss left Rossmont with insuf-

dividend. A year ago, Rossmont announced the acquisition of Dunham-Bush, a heating and air conditioning company, although the deal was

A FREE LUGGAGE TAG WITH EVERY ORDER

The Times executive

leather collection

not completed until the end of April. In its first two months as part of the group, Dunham-Bush incurred a small loss. However, Rossmont remains confident that Dunham-Bush will enhance its long-term

prospects. Santric, which makes the steel lavatories sited at football grounds and other public places, made a small profit, partly because of a cutback in local authority spending.

The Dunham-Bush deal has left Rossmont 14.7 per cent owned by Berjaya Group Berhad of Malaysia, with another 51 per cent held by Dunham-Bush International (Cayman), a Berjaya subsidiary.



Lloyds TSB said conflict of interest was not an issue in Peter Ellwood's decision to stand down at Sears

Ellwood leaves Sears board

PETER ELLWOOD, who next months becomes group chief executive of Hoyds TSB. Mr Eliwood, who will suc-ceed Sir Brisse Pitman at Lloyds TSR has been on the

1994. Sears said he is considresponsibilities. He is also a director of the Royal Philhar-monic Orchestra, deputy chairman of Business in the Community and chairman of

Sears hoard since September

Last month two prominent retailers left the board of struggling to slim down and ering a number of his outside Lloyds TSB. Sir Richard restructure, has yet to make Marks & Spencer, and John Gildersleeve, a director of Tesco, decided to leave the board because of the two retail companies' growing interest in financial services.

cial services and Lloyds TSB yesterday emphasised that conflict of interest was not an issue in Mr Ellwood's decision to resign from the board

Sears, which has been

Costain risks disruption of share-issue meeting

Costain chairman, faces a turbulent début at the extraordinary general meeting on Monday at which he will ask shareholders to approve the issuing of more shares (Oliver August writes).

Protesters against the Newbury bypass, which is being built by the troubled construction group, have threatened to disrupt the

At an EGM last year, protesters stormed the podium and prevented Dr Azman. formerly a joint deputy chairfrom giving a man. presentation.

Dr Azman is today taking over from Sir Christopher Benson, who is bowing out early after a disastrous year

announced his decision to leave the company four weeks ago after the disposal of its US Coal business and its stake in London's Spitalfields develop-



Benson: group refocused

AZMAN SHAELL the new for Costain. Sir Christopher ment in order to raise cash and refocus the group. The proposal to issue more shares was announced at the

same time. Shareholders approved the disposals last week. Sir Christopher said: Together with the new investment in the group, agreed banking through to June 1998, and the continuing support of our major shareholder, intria, we now have the basis for the group to move forward, con-centrating solely on its core engineering and construction

Control of the company now rests with three Middle Eastern companies. Intria. of Malaysia, holds 40 per cent after a £73 million bail-out last summer. Dr Azman is a director

Answers from page 29. CHAMPART

(a) The division of the produce of land. Hence, a form of tenure or lease, in which the landlord receives a fixed share of the produce. Also, a charge upon land, consisting of a part of the produce. Still in use in the Channel Islands. "The land was subject to both tithe and champart — the latter being a payment of every twelfth sheaf of corn." COWAN

(c) One who builds dry stone walls (ie without mortar); a dry-stone-diker, applied derogatorily to one who does the work of a mason, but has not been regularly apprenticed or bred to the trade. Derivation unknown. "He was by trade a cowan, that is an occupation combining the callings of a mason and house carpenter in one."

(c) In geology, consisting of broken pieces of older rocks. Of an anatomy model, composed of a number of separable pieces. From the Greek kidein to break (off). CONIROSTER

(b) A member of the Conirostres, a group of insessorial birds having a conical bill. From the Latin corus a cone + rostrum a bill or beak. An 1824 dictionary of science: "Conirosters. Conirosters, including those which have a thick robust conical beak, as the crows and finches."

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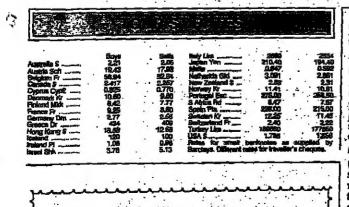
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DIARY

Montague to pack his bags

AN INAUSPICIOUS start to the new year for Robert Montague, the tycoon who was forced to quit two years ago as chief executive of Tiphook, the container leasing firm, after amassing personal debts of £30 million.

When Montague fell on hard times, the loyal Tory supporter set up a tenancy over his picturesque estate so that it could be sold only with him in occupation. Now it appears a deal has been struck between him and the receivers of his 1,300-acre estate in Oxfordshire, enabling a sale with vacant possession to go ahead. Expected to go for around £8.5 million, it is due to be marketed this month through Knight Frank and Strutt & Parker.

Fedded bliss

CONGRATULATIONS to Alan Greenspan's long-term girlfriend who unwrapped the ultimate present on Christmas Day — a marriage proposal. After 12 years of dating, the chairman of the Federal Reserve popped the question to NBC-TV corresponding to the proposal of the present of pondent Andrea Mitchell:
"Do you want a big wedding
or a small wedding?" According to 70-year-old Greenspan: "We have a huge amount in common. It's a really great match." Both he and Mitchell, who is 20 years his junior. were married previously.

Missing mobiles

THIEVES in Hong Kong rang in the new year by running away with 40 con-tainers of mobile phones. The crooks made off with around \$1.27 million worth of equipment. What fun tracking down the stolen goods in an area where almost one in six people has a mobile phone.



"And a record high new year to you too'

Hot gossip

STILL on the mobile, a Brazilian policeman suffered third degree burns when the cellular phone attached to his belt exploded. Military police colonel Malcir Ferreira da Costa has a very sore hip and leg as a result of the accident but counts himself lucky that he didn't have the phone

Down on the farm

WITH the pick of trophy hotels at his diposal, where did Gerry Robinson choose to spend New Year's Eve? The multimillionaire chairman of Granada Group plumped for his converted farmhouse in Ireland, surrounded by the rest of the Robinson clan. The tenth of 11 children, Robinson headed straight for his homeland in Donegal (where he intends to retire in seven years' time) to see in the new year with his merry band of friends and relatives. Betty Robinson, Gerry's 87-year-old mother, and his two young children from his second marriage were also there. Let's hope snow didn't prevent him from returning to his favourite golf course.

SOME 38 years after the socalled Great Leap Forward to become the world's biggest steelmaker, China has reached its goal. Its steel production has broken the 100 million tonne mark, making it the number one steelmaker in the world. China's dreams turned into a nightmare in 1958, when farmers abandoned their fields to make steel at Mao Zedong's behest. The campaign was abandoned a year later after harvests failed and millions of people died

of starvation.

Million smiles for the software supernerds

Fraser Nelson checks out the upcoming generation of high-tech whiz-kids

hey were laughed out of the classroom as schoolkids. Their parents despaired as they locked themselves in their rooms with ZX8Is as teenagers. But the nerds who shunned society for their floppies in the Eighties are now enjoying the last laugh as the software millionaires of today.

They are a breed apart from their peers in the more established sectors. In their world the value of a company is remotely connected to matters such as assets profits and earnings. Their currency is intellectual property, usually borne from one home computer, unusual amounts of enthusiasm and years of Sunday afternoons in their bedrooms. Just one good program can make them for life.

This is excatly what hap-pened to Peter Molyneux, now one of the biggest names in British computer games. Eight years ago, he was living on a diet of lentils and potatoes in the top flat of a pensioner's house in Guildford.

In 1989, he wrote Populous, a complex software game whose players can contruct a fantasy world as well as zap aliens. It sold more than three million copies. And now Mr Molyneux is worth more than F30 million

His success sent a message to fund managers across the City - software companies are a second chance to climb on board the computer miracle that shot Bill Gates of Microsoft to stardom.

Mesmerised by the profits to assets ratio of software firms. the City is willing, wanting and waiting to make millionaires out of anyone ready to take their wares to the market.

Michael Hodges, chairman of On-Line pic, took up the invitation last month, becoming a paper millionaire at the age of 34. His company runs only ten computer games, but it was valued at £4 million when it joined the Alternative Investment Market last

Most software leaders have yet to go public. They could take their companies to the City tomorrow and be rewarded with a wonder-rating that would instantly make them worth millionaires. But the City's asking price is still on the rise, and most are opting for the status of millionaire-in-

Jez San, a 30-year-old former computer programmer, joined the ranks of the software millionaires in March when his company, Argonought Software, was valued at £60 million after a bid from



Peter Molyneux is now one of the biggest names in British computer games



Mr San, who founded the company in his bedroom when he was 16, struck gold when he created StarWing, which became a best-selling game for Nintendo. He brought his father out of retirement to be the company's finance director and now employs 110 staff in Colindale, north London.

Messrs Molyneux, Hodges and San are all in their thirties and picked up their skills during the Eighties when BBC Micros, ZX Spectrums and Amstrads reigned supreme.

Theirs was a decade where the craze for computers was synonymous with a craze for programming, and it was impossible to use any home computer without at least a basic knowledge of its language. It was the decade of the nerd: teenagers sat in their rooms writing better and bet-

ter programs.

The leap from the bedroom to the boardroom comes instantly, and needs hardly any

Logic, the American software business sense at all - just that goes with it. The gamesgreat computer games. This masters are the second breed, window has now closed foreyer. The 12-year-olds who pulled computers from their boxes at Christmas are unlikely to ever encounter a line of

programming. Home computers now run

Computer firms have now won the battle for the City's imagination

on the point-and-click technology of the mouse, which has rendered amateur programming all but extinct. As computers move on, so too does the breed of software millionaire. The likes of Bill Gates and Apple Macintosh's Steve Jobs made their millions on the rise of the personal computer, and

developing ingenious add-ons and now cashing in from the battles between Nintendo and

And a third wave of millionaires is being brought to riches courtesy of the information superhighway. As anyone who has attempted to search for any topic on the Internet will know, the World Wide Web is dominated by thousands of teenage "Netheads" who have developed their per-

sonal Internet pages.

These offer a virtual tour of their likes and loves and offer the option of downloading pictures of their dog.

Just as the software tycoons of today spent their youth trying to crack into the machine code of Horace Goes Skiing. Netheads are cutting their teeth on the Web pages, and have already started to rake in the millions as a reward. Ajaz Ahmed, is leading the

pack of the next generation of software millionaires. He set up AKQA, an Internet consul-

tancy that advises companies how to make the World Wide Web work for them. He says that the company turns over well north of £2 million a year and he plans to float it within three years.

At 42, Cliff Stanford is something of a father figure for Britain's Internet wannabes. As managing di-rector of Demon Internet, which connects more UK computers to the Internet than any other firm, he is worth about E18 million.

He set up Demon as a software company in 1985, and four years ago branched into what was then the enthusiasts' domain of Internet. When surfing the Net became trendy and the popularity exploded, Mr Stanford cashed in on amateurs' demand by offering Internet access for £10 a month.

But unlike the games-mas-ters, Internet millionaires must combine technical ingenuity with sharp business acumen to make the leap from bedroom to boardroom. The key is not so much in technical know-how, which is, after all, available from most nerdy teenagers in America.

Money is made from seiling the Internet as a commodity. through helping technophobes to harness the Web. Those who can sell the Internet and know their way round a home page can become serial software millionaires.

Grahame Davies, a former director of Demon who made almost El million from the company, left it last year to help to set up another Internet access provider as a head-on competitor. The result was Easynet, now the third largest Internet-access provider in Britain and already worth £8.6

Then came Jan Murray, founder of PC World, who pocketed £1.7 million when he sold the nationwide computer chain to Dixons three years ago. With the help of four of the original PC World team, they set up Internet Technol-— a rival to both Demon

n a little over a year, the firm has shot from a standing start to take L fourth place in the Internet connection stakes and challenge Easynet. As the largest single shareholder, Mr Murray now holds a second paper fortune worth £5.35 million. As the company closes in on Easynet, the value of his stake could well double over the next year.

Computer companies have now won the battle for the City's imagination, and London is now beginning to emulate New York in its excitement for the homegrown commodity now being dubbed "Britsoft".

Profits no longer essential, computer companies coming to the market are being valued at up to 100 times their last annuai sales.

The founders of even small software companies are claiming shareholdings that make them instant millionaires. For the whiz-kids of yesteryear, their ship has most certainly

The lowering of the guard

A new season of the series that must be anathema to crooks opens with a worrying report on drug smuggling. Seizures of supplies by customs officers are breaking records, but so are the amounts of drugs that are coming into the country. Cuts in the number of customs officers are only part of the problem, albeit a big part. In vulnerable areas such as the south Cornwall coastimes, intelligence collating and flexible teams are taking over from the strategically positioned officers of old. This all looks good on paper, but the antismuggling experts to whom John Waite talks indicate that the results are proving no more successful than the experiment of using mobile units to replace the bobby on the beat.

Rell. Book and Candle, Radio 4, 2,00pm.

By directing it as well, Ned Chaillet has reduced the risk of his adaptation of John Van Druten's stage comedy about witchcraft going off the boil. It might otherwise have sounded dated, even a trifle silly. It was already beginning to go down that path when it was filmed in the 1950s, with Kim Novak as the landlady who uses her magical powers to ensuare her msuspecting tenant (hames Stewart). In Chaillet's intelligently disciplined production, spellbinder and spellbound are delighfully played by Bearie Edney and Stephen Moore. The witch's familiar, a cat called Pyewacket, is honoured by clever pussay cat music from Mia Soteriou.

PADIO 1

8.00em Charlie Jordan 19.00 Radio 1's Top 100 Hits 6.00pen Steve Lamaco's Hits for 97 8.00 Steving Out for the Summer, with Mark Raddille, Highlights from some of the lestivats of 1996 11.00 in Concert: Orbital Highlights of the performance at Alexandra Palace in London 12.00 Mary Anner Hobbs 4.00em Charlie Jordan

6.00em Nick Berraciough 8.05 Sereh Kennedy 10.00 Alex Lester 1.00per Christmas Comedy Clessics 1.30 The Berties at the BBC (2/2) 2.30 Ed Stewert Seques at the color (2/2) 2.50 CN services Sufficient Durin 7.00 Exitat Make or Break Paul Gambaccini investigates the film musical game 8.00 Love on the Moors — from Heath-cliff to Heath-Cliff. The story of the classic Withoming Heights 9.30 Carlo Curley Pavarotii of the Cress 10 St Matters Christman. The the Organ 10.30 Virtage Christmas: The Paletace 11.00 Bob Harls 1.00em Adrian Finighan 3.00 Steve Medden

RADIO 5 LIVE

8.05am Vital Statistics 5.36 Lawrence
Batley: 20th-Cantury Victorian 6.00 The
Breaklast Programme 8.35 The Maga-zine 11.35 Day Neas Special 12.00
Midday with Mair 2.05pm Sport on Five-notical; cricket Second One-Day Inter-national between Zmbabwe and Eng-land in Harare 5.30 Travor Brooking's Footbal Night, Includes 6.45 Eventon v Blackburn and 6.00 Manchestar United v Asion Visia 00] 10.05 The Food of Love and Haise 11.00 Night Extra 11.35 Never Walk Alone (Ng) 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

5.00em Early Bresidest 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chietrolm 12.00 2.00gm Tornmy Boyd 4.00 Onvetime, with Pale Desley 7.40 Mcz Der's Sportszorie 10.80 Jernes Whele 1.00em len Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour.

5.30ma Europa Today 6.30 Europa
Today 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Discovery
8.10 Words of Feith 8.15 Context Half
9.06 World Business Report 9.15 Andy
Kershaw 9.45 Sports Report 10.25
BBC English 10.45 Off the Shelf 11.30
Thirty-Minuter Deamic 12.05pent World
Business Report 12.15 British Today
12.30 Composer of the Month 2.05
Outlook 2.30 Megamic 2.05 Sports
Roundup 3.15 Concert Half 4.16 World
Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 British
Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 British
Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 British
Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45
Sports Roundup 6.30 Discovery 7.01
Outlook 7.25 Words of Feith 7.30 Multitrack 9.30 World Business Report 9.15
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Roundup 11.10 Scence Yew 11.15
Country Style 11.30 Multibrack 12.30sep
From Our Own Correspondent 12.45
British Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words
of Feith 2.30 Assignment 3.15 Sports Europe Today ·

CLASSIC FM 4.40mm Mark Criffin's 6.00 Sally Peterson 9.00 Henry Kely, 12,00 Mile Read
2.00pm The Poyal Opera — 50 Glorious
Years, A selection of highlights from the
last half-certary 4.00 Nick Balley 8.00
Neweright 7.00 Gerdening Forum (f)
8.00 Evening Concert. List (Les PreLudes); Netselm (Capricolo Espegnol,
Op 34); Beethoven (Symptony No 7 in
A, Op 92) 10,00 Celectin Howard's Six of
the Best 1.00mm Mel Cooper

Number 1 John 1996. A look back at the year with the sward-winning duo 2.00pm Nicky Horne 6.00 Paul Coyte GRID / Richard Porse (AMD 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Randel Lee Rose

(Ouverture Caracteristique at britante); Michael Haydri (Symphony in C, P34); Lilbum (Drysdale Overtura); Chopiri (Two Noctumes, Op 62);

(Two Noctures, Op 62);
Firmsky-Korsskov (Sintonietis on Russien Themes)

9,00 Morning Collection, with Carlons Young, Includes Zeveter (Violin Concerto in C, Op 1 No 3); Purcell (Frost scene, King Arthur); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 3 in.D, Polish)

10.15 New Year's Day Concert.
Live from the Golden Hall of the Vienna Musikorean. The Vienna Philhermonic, under Riccardo Mult. A tractitoral concert of music by the concert of music by the Strauss family and Irlends 10.50 The Linz Version 11.15

pm Hopes and Resolutions Music from the Renaissance to calebrate the New Year.
Includes John Dowland
(Resolution for Lute); William
Byrd (O God, that Guides the
Cheartul Sun)

Cheerful Sun)

1,00 Composer of the Week:
Leonard Bernstein

2,00 Midweek Cholco. includes
Bach (Goldberg Veristions,
BMV988, excerpts); Mozart
(Serenade in G, K525 (Eine
kleine Nachtmusik); Burgon
(Nunc Dimittis); Dvorak
(Songs My Mother Taught
Me)

Me)
Choral Evensong. A service to mark the life and work of Dr Bemard Ross who died test November, recorded in the Chapel of Megdaten College, Oxford, where Dr

(5/6) 12.00 Paid Company, with Arms

Peny 12.25pm King Street Junior, with Karl Howman and Jennes Grout 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One. 1.46 The Archers (r) 2.00 Bell, Book and Candle. See Chrise

2.00 Bell, Book and Candle. See Choice
3.30 Carry on up the Shrubbery.
Harry Thompson traces the rise of atternative beliefs in the 1930s, reviseling why more than half a million people took to nuclson (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Keleidoscope
Gutz. Paul Gambacchi, quizzas two teams on the year's critural highs and lows
4.45 Short Story. Haw Year's
Day. Pay Weldon reeds her own story about a couple's latesting relationship.

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55

Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock Neura
6.15 Going South, Kavin Corn
reports on the anguel inflotravellers to Marseilles (r)

Magdalen College Oxford informator chodistarum

Grayston Ives, organ scholar Matthew Martin 5.00 Music Machine, with Sue

Nelson 5.15 Interpretations on Records The vocal music of Hendel. Includes performances by Isobel Balifie, Heddie Nash, Jernifer Vyvyen, Maureen Lehene, Joen Sutherland, John Shirley-Ousk, Janet Baker, James Bowmen and Ernma Kintoy (r) Private Passions. Michael

Erma, Kirkby (r)
6.30 Private Passions. Michael
Barkeley meets actress
Patricia Routledge
7.30 A Grand, Mysterious
Hampony. The last in a series
exploring the symphonic
legacy of Anton Bruckner a
certing effect the cleaf

cartury after his death. Symphony No 9 in D minor. BBC National Orchestra of Wates, under Tacinaki Otaka Wates, under Tacaand Utawa 9.30 Salid Short Storless in Mrs Packletide's Tiger, Read by Peter Howell (r) 9.35 Could Cleartet, Shostakovid

9.35 Could Caparter, Shossacovor (Shing Quertet No 11, Op 122) 10.00 Volces, lein Burnside Invites isteners to pick their taxourite songs and singers from 1996 10.45 The Shelter Show Includes works by Brahms, Auber and Jean Francaix, and performences by Olga Haley, Paderewski and Alegander

Kipras 11.30 Composer of the Week Tchnikovsky (/) 12.30em Jazz Notes, with Digby Francette Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night,

Dublin is winning back 1980s emigrants, says Eileen McCabe

the basic operating software

UK retailers queue to join Irish high life

ike bees to honey, ever more of Britain's blue Dublin in 1996. Boots, Debenhams, Dixons, Iceland and Argos all established base camps, and Marks & Spencer moved into one of the city's most prestigious buildings.

Dublin is a booming city in a booming economy - the fastest-growing economy in the OECD fuelling one of the fastest-growing capital cities in Europe. According to the 1996 report by ERECO, a group of European economic research institutes, Dublin will hold this title until at least 2000.

The city is more confident than ever before. With Irish inflation in 1996 running at 1.8 per cent, house prices rose in Dublin by 15 per cent. In the leafiest, most exclusive, suburbs, values rose by 30 per

When domestic property specialists started to predict that 1997 would bring more of the same, Ruairi Quinn, the Finance Minister, began to worry. Property prices were rising so fast that they could affect the overall inflation figures, he believed, and something had to be done to

In December, he increased the surtax payable by house MORAG PRESTON | buyers from 5 per cent to 9 per

dampen spirits.



cent on houses valued at

Ir£150,000 and over. sector, another weathervane of economists, is also souring. Retail, industrial and office space all gave investment returns in 1996 of 16 per cent or more, against about 7 per cent

By autumn, Dublin had an extra million square feet of retail space, as developers and builders got into the act. City centre and out-of-town shopping malls popped up, with British retail giants as anchor tenants. And still, business analysts predict, there is room Not everyone who is buying

In 1996, four million visitors

in the second reservation is a second of the second second in the second second

most of them spending time. and money, in its capital. This trend is set to continue,

especially if the peace process can be reassembled in 1997. In November, Ireland's two tourism boards launched a joint is Irish. According to the specialists, Dublin is Europe's initiative to attract visitors to both parts of the island. second most popular tourist Tourism already generates Irii.3 billion a year from destination, after Amsterdam.

overseas visitors. The tourism

pean average of 2 per cent. Such is the demand for accommodation that there are 25 hotels being built or in the planning process. They will add 3,000 bedrooms. The thorn in the foot of the Celtic tiger has always been its dismal unemployment rate. In

spite of the creation of up to

industry is growing at a rate of

15 per cent, against a Euro-

40,000 new jobs a year and the relentless effort by successive governments to massage the figure down through training schemes, the core rate remains a stubbornly high 12 per cent. Part of the reason lies in an ironic and peculiarly Irish twist Many of the thousands of educated young people who emigrated in the 1980s are coming home, their CVs laden with experience and know-how, and swooping on the new jobs. This does not bother the retailers. What they see is a permanent, employed popula-tion that is rapidly becoming used to the high life. And that

is where they come in. Between the Christmas rush and the end of the January sales, consumers in the Repub lic will have spent IrEL6 billion, Dublin Chamber of Commerce estimates. In Dublin, the figure may reach Irf600,000. The big British retailers are making sure that they are getting their share.

6.30 Quete Unquets, with Nigel
Ress, Stanley Unwin, Lee
Simpson, Merlin Holland and
Christopher Matthew (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Arches
7.20 Face the Facts. See Choice
7.45 Golden Spotes. With Sill
and Katherine Berlow, Bridle
Moore and Rhoma Norley
8.30 Close States. A look at the
ego-old male shaving thus,
including an examination of
the current lad of the
complete head shave
9.00 Examina. In the first of a new
series Dr Oliver Sacks talks to
Barbara Myers about the
intricacies and oddities of the
human mind 5.55mm Shipping (LW) 6.00 News 6.10 Ferming 6.25 Prayer 6.30 The Living World 7.00 Today 8.43 Below the Parapet 9.00 Name 9.05 Michaelk, with Times columnist Libby Purves Times columnist Libby Purvise and guests
10.00 A Good Read (FMI), Sarah Durant Invites David Mellor and Jerny Eclair to choose their favourite piperbacks
10.00 Deby Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Wessan's Hour, with Jerni Murray
11.30 The Old Curiosity Shop. Eizabeth Proud's adaptation of Charles Dickens's Classic (645)

human mind human mind Valadoscope Guiz (r)

9.20 Keletidescope Guiz (f)
10.00 The World Tonight
10.46 Book at Bedtime: Searlet
and Black, Part three of
Standballs novel, read by
Gerr Wiles

Standhal's novel, read by Greg Wise

11.00 The Cheese Shop
Presents. A new officest cornedy series, including a todose-racing professor and.
a racing professor and.
a racing professor and.
a racing professor and.
a racing professor and.
but the volcas of Gerard Foster, Dave Lamb and Gordon Southern.

11.30 Date with Fata. A stroke of outrageous luck gives a firm but the chance to become a movie mogel, PTE Whelans

buff the chance to become a movie mogic, Phil Whelans and Gery Parker's story, with Michael Troughton, Jenny Howe and Toby Longworth (r) 11.45 The Jeys of Middleh, with Michael Fertion Stevens (r) 12.00 News 12.30mm The Late Book, Alice Through tine Looking Glass, by Lewis Caroli (r) (377) 12.46 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-88.8 RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 688, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW. 649; LW 198 (12.45-6.55-m); CLASSIC FIL FM 100-102 VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1008, Television and radio listings complied by Peter Dear, fan Hughes, Rosenberg Smith, Steam Thousand, Sens. Gregory and John McNamara.



Out with the in-jokes, let's have some new

Matthew

Bond

mas. Am I generous with my praise of Cuts (ITV), pour encourager les autres single plays? Or am I honest, thereby hastening the day when ITV's drama output consists wholly of alternating episodes of Peak Practice and Soldier, Soldier? Not

Honesty, however, it will have to he, In which case: Cuts was derivative, too long and apparentaudience of television executives. There was a running joke in it about the Edinburgh Television Festival. "I believe in quality/writers/whatever," Lord Mellow (Timothy West) would shout from time to time "I said so at the Edinburgh Festival, so I'm stock with it." If the idea of adapting Malcolm Bradbury's comic novella was also dreamt up at the Edinburgh Festival, I wouldn't be the slightest bit surprised. All sorts

The story of Cuts, adapted here by David Nobbs, was basically a modest reworking of Evelyn Waugh's Scoop Instead of William Boot becoming a war corres-pondent through mistaken ident-ity, we had Henry Babbacombe (Peter Davison) plucked from Turai obscurity to write television drama because his improbably glamorous literary agent was will-ing to go to bed with Jocelyn Pride (Nigel Planer), head of drama at Eldorado Television. And if you think that name made them wince at the BBC wait till you hear the title of the series that Eldorado had just cancelled - Gladstone: Man of Empire. Ring any bells?
Boot, you will recall, wrote the

nature notes for Lord Copper's Beast. Babbacombe, by modest contrast, had written the definitive work, Dithyrambic Pentameters

of things sound like good ideas late and two novels about garden at night in the bar of The George sheds. The man was clearly a fraud - everybody knows that the comic novel about garden sheds was written by my colleague, Lynne Truss.

> Traud or not, Babbacombe was easy meat for Peter Davison, who has been playing this sort of engaging ingenue for most of his career. In particular, Babbacombe bore a marked resemblance to Dr Stephen Daker, the idealistic young doctor that Davison portrayed in Andrew Davies's outstanding campus comedy, A Very Peculiar Practice. Like Daker, Babbacombe was quickly seduced by a deliciously powerful woman fin this case Pippa Haywood) and like Daker, he worked for a university ever more tightly bound to the world of

ministration, however, was quite

enough of university jokes. Back to television. As Babbacombe gor down to the writing, we had old jokes about kiwi-fruit, timeless jokes about buzz words ("we want it realistic, artistic, visual and ... luminous) and in-jokes about executive producers ("someone who doesn't do very much but gets a separate screen credit on which the camera lingers"). Perhig business.
The faculty of theme park ad-

haps the best joke of all was

Babbacombe's discovery that the REVIEW newrites were being done before he delivered his script - to save time.

There were other bright moments, most of which involved West, who was on superb form as Mellow, the relevision tyearn who ardently believed in quality, as long as it was cheap. Goodness. this was subtle stuff. Bradbury wrote his novella

based on his experience of working in television and Andrew Wallace apparently wrote Burn Your Phone (BBC2) based on his experience as a telephone operator. It must have been a very odd experi-Many short plays - and partie-

ularly those that purport to be thrillers - suffer from ar. adolescent quality, forced upon them by the need first to generate dramatic tension and then to resulte it in under half an hour. So it rather proved with this, with the revelation that the menacing phone calls

that Andy (Alan Cumming, who also directed) had been receiving at the telephone exchange were not the first sign of mental illness but a psychometric test designed by his employer, being the dramatic equivalent of "and then I woke up". Was that it? It was.

ill, not much damage done. Before he got carried away with melodrama, Wallace had shown a good ear for . . . well. monologue in this case and Cumming, while hardly having to stretch himself in what was a oneman show, emerged as proficient behind the camera as he is in front. As somebody who took an instant dislike to Kes at an early

> But it could have been worse. I could have been a pigeon. Feral pigeons, racing pigeons,

even doves. I'm afraid to say, died a dozen feathery deaths as we

age. I was not looking forward to

Shadow - the Peregrine (BBC2).

female peregrine who lived in a quarry with a curiously nameless mate and reared a single chick, Storm. Storm could have had brothers and sisters but one egg was infertile and her mother clumsily kicked another out of the nest when she went off for lunch. Ash - anthropomorphism, don't you just hate it?

Simon King's photography, however, was as splendid as ever. Although one or two sequences looked as if they might have involved the co-operation of a trained peregrine, the nature-redin-tooth-and-talon stuff was magnificent. Behind you, behind you, we shouted, but would those pigeons listen? "Shadow had claimed her natural right," pronounced John King's narration as yet another bundle of feathers flapped their last. I expect the pigeons would like a right of reply on that one.

BBC1 7.00em JOE 90 (8467623) 7.25 Playdays (7808739) 7.45 Postman Pat (7092781) 8.00 Peter Pan and the Pirates (8665555) 8.20 Bodger and Badger (3402352) 8.35 The Legend of Prince Vallent (3910265) 9.00 Incredible Games (8211791) 9.25 Sweet Valley High (8230828) 9.50 Record Breakers Gold (2689807) 10.15

Stue Peter Magic (732536) 10.45 FILM: Bigfoot and the Hendersons (1987) with John Lithgow, Melinds Dilton and Don Ameche. A family's camping holiday is brought to an abrupt and when they encounter the legendary Bigloot. Directed by William Dear (1) (12970401) -12.30pm WIPEOUT (49826)

1.00 NEWS (T) and weather (71688062) 1.08 REGIONAL NEWS (96778772) 1.10 NEIGHBOURS (1) (80660401) 1.30 THE WORLD OF PETER RABBIT AND

FRIENDS (1) (48197) 2.00 FILM: Porridge (1979) Spin-off from the 1970s television series staring Ronnie Barker, Richard Beckinsale and Fulton zy. Directed by Dick Clement (1)

GLOBAL SUNRISE Carreras capture the daing of the sun from 20 different locations throughout the world, through six continents and every

time zone (T) (6109333) 4.50 FINAL SCORE (1947710) 5.10 NEWS (T) and weether (7431277) 5.20 REGIONAL NEWS (9647130) 5.25 TOM AND JERRY (r) (1823517)

5.45 NEIGHBOURS (1) (1) (852420) 6.10 FILM: ET The Extre-Terrestrial (1982) starring Henry Thomas, Drew Barrymore, Des Wallage and Pater Coyote. Spielberg's sci-fi fantasy which became.

8.00 RONNIE BARKER: A LIFE IN COMEDY. Ronnie Barker gives his first interview since retiring from showbusiness, chronicling his early career in the prison sitcom Porridge, his performances elong-side Ronnie Corbett to his comic portreyal of the penny-pinching Arkwright in Open All Hours. Florinis Corbett, David Jason, Nicholes Lyndhurst, Michael Palin and Richard Briers are among those paying tribute (1) (162369)

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8.40 NEWS (1) and weather (226771) THE MILL ON THE FLOSS
Period drama based on the novel by George Elict, charting the life of a woman forced to choose between the men in her life. Starring Emily Watson, James Frayn, Bernard Hill and Peter Gunn (T) (18593802) 9.001

11.05 MATCH OF THE DAY Highlights, of Manchester United's game against Aston Villa at Old Trafford (1) (978420)

12.10em FILM: Big Jake (1971) starring John Wayne as an ageing Texas renother who rides to the rescue when his tormer wife, asks him to help to find their grandson, who has been iddnapped, with Richard Boone, Chris Mitchium, Patrick Wayne and Maureen O'Hara, in her fifth and final movie with the Duke (134591) 1.55 WEATHER (2815840)

VideoPlus - and the Video PlusCodes VideoPlase+ and the Video Plascooses
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlasCode* numbers, which allow you to programme your video records instantly with a VideoPlase+* handset Tap in the Video PlasCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplase+(**), Placode (**) and Video Programme: are trademarker of Genster Development Ltd. 7.30 FIEM: Blockede (1938, b/w) Henry Fonds as a termer lighting for his rights during the Spanish Carl War. Also starring Madeleine Carroll, Leo Carrillo and John Halliday. Directed by William Distarte (1) (5992604)

BBC2

8.50 FONDA ON FONDA Jane Fonda hosts & tribute to her tether, Henry (r) (2093333) 9:40 FILM: My Derling Clementine (1946, b/w) Classic John Ford western starring Henry Fonds as Wyest Earp (1) (22538401)

11.15 NEW YEAR'S DAY CONCERT FROM VIENNA Riccardo Muti conducts the Vienna Philihermonic Orchestra as they the Strauss family, Also included in the programme is an appearance by the Vierina State Opera Ballet. Strruitaneous broadcast with Radio 3 (8087468)

12.30pm THE ROYAL INSTITUTION CHRISTMAS LECTURES in his lines lecture Professor Conway Morris traces human evolution (T) (33894)

1.30 OLYMPIC GYMPIASTICS Highlights from Atlanta (34623)

2.30 BALANCHINE: New York City Ballet
Selutes George Betanchine Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the
choreographer's death with excerpts
from Who Cares, Applic and Western
Symphony (4902913)

3.55 Fit.M: Willy Works and the Chocolate Factory (1971) Based on Roald Dahl's classic children's story. Gene Wilder as the eccentric confectioner who takes a group of youngsters and their guardlens on, a tour of his phenomenal factory. Directed by Mel Stuart (1) (636178)

5,30 SKI SUNDAY SPECIAL (983536) 6.10 IN THE EYE OF THE WIND David one of the most expossed flore made, should be be be seen and the wildow and should be be seen as the state of the wildow and

7.00 WARTING FOR GOD Diana and Tom-organise a methyly play (f) (T) (2333) 7.30 UNIVERSITY CHAFLENGE INTER-NATIONAL Imperial College London the University of Michigan (1) (5)

8.00 THE TRAVEL SHOW CARIBBEAN SPECIAL Puerto Rico, Dominica and Antique (467771)

6.40 SHOOTING STARS with guests Clive Mende, Neil Morrissey, Anna Friel and Alvin Standust (r) (T) (107420) 8.20 THE TONY FERRINO PHENOMENON All reical fun with Steve Coppen and his Portuguese atter-ego, crooner Tony Ferrino (1) (989523)



Jeonifer Jeson Leigh (10.10pm)

10.10 FILM: Short Cuts (1993) with Andie MacDowell, Tim Robbins, Jack Lemmon and Jenniter Jeson Leigh, Robert Altman's drama tollowing a group of suburbanites whose lives become tatefully entwined (T) (38168555) 1.15am WEATHER (5031227)

CHOICE Global Sunrise: Around the World in 80 Minutes

BBC1, 3.30pm Never underestimate the ingenuity of the people who make wildlife documentaries. Just when you thought that the genre could not possibly offer any new angles there comes a project of striking originality. As 1995 turned into 1996 camera crews from the BBC Natural History Unit were in position. in 20 locations on six continents to film landscapes and wildlife as dawn approached. The beauty of the idea is that although we are seeing the results as another new year arrives, the material has hardly dated. With Julian Pettifer as anchor man. and experts on the spot, the cameras capture gameis in New Zealand, a giant turtle laying its eggs on a Queensland beach, goese flocking to East Anglia and other vigneties of the natural world and its rituals.

The Mill on the Floss BBC1, 9.00pm

It is strange how George Eliot's novels have to it is straige now George Enors novels have become a feature of the television new year, for they hardly burst with good cheer and certainly not The Mill on the Floss with its bleak story of unrequited love. This is an observation, not a complaint. Eliots naturalism is well suited to the screen and Hugh Stocklart's adaptation, helped by ringin Stokalart's adaptionally liespool by camerawork that is rich but never just prenty adroity captures the social and geographical milieu in which the story is set. Emily Watson, who achieved sudden fame last year with the cinema film Breaking the Waves with the chieffa full breading the waves, plays the pivotal role of Maggie Tulliver, the young woman torn between her love for two suitors while trying to maintain loyally to her ill-starred family. Ifan Meredith makes a promising debut as Maggie's brother. Tom, whose love-hate relationship with his sister burns through the narrative.

Channet 4, 10.15pm

Have you heard that Diana, Princess of Wales, is going to a clinic in Holland for IVF treatment so that she can have another baby? No, this is not some tabloid expose but the central joke of a snappy little series based on the revolcing of film footage. Previously employed on Pallas, a spoof about the Royal Family, the stratagem is now applied to a Dutch soap opera interspersed with film of the Princess. The plot has the clinic taken over by a Dr Werther, who looks and sounds not unlike Richard Wilson's Victor Meldrew. His plan is to kill off his Dutch patients and import more lucrative customers from the British National Health Service. Which is where the Princess comes in, though surel she does not use the NHS? Klinik! is a small but jolly effort, just about worth its ten-

Channel 4, 10.25pm

The Johnson family, Mum, Dad and three children, are played by such recognisable faces as Pam Ferris, James Fleet and Nicola Walker (seen recently in Moll Flanders). Or the faces would be recognisable if they were not covered with animal masks, for the Johnsons, though they live and talk like human beings, and mix with them socially, are cows. It is a bold concept for a sicom, and even bolder for the writers, Nick Whith and even bolder for the writers, Nick Writty and the comedian Eddie Izzard, to launch the Johnsons in a one-hour special prior to the series. Despite vulgarines which seem inseparable from television comedy these days, the joke is adroitly sustained, helped by Patrick Barlow as a doty bovine great-aunt with a voice like Dame Edith Evans and a plot about the older son getting married to his human girlfriend.

Peter Waymark

HTV 6.00 GMTV (1184081) 9.25 SANTO BUGITO (8225994) 9.50 CARTOON TIME (2683623)

10.10 FILM: A Man For All Seasons 11966 Oscar-winning adaptation of Potent Bott's play about the clash between Henry VIII and Thomas More over the King's divorce With Paul Scolleic and Robert Shaw (50731994)

12.30 NEWS (T) and neather (25326449). 12.45 THE MAKING OF JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH (7) (936046)

1.15 FILM: Silverado (1985) with Keyn Klass. Kevin Costner and Danny Glove Western adventure about a mismatched quartet teaming up to save a run-count town (49001710)

3.40 FiLM: Straight Talk (1992) Romanto comedy, starring Dolly Parton A name country grif arrives in Chicago and is mistaken for a well-known radio agony

5.20 NEWS (T) and weather (6234771)

5.35 FILM: Feds (1988) Two ternale recruits to the FBI training programme join forces to outwit their chauviristic classmates Starring Rebecca De Morray and Mary Directed by Dan Goldberg (T) (1634791) 7.00 EMMERDALE (T) (6159)

7.30 CORONATION STREET A whole host of surprises lay in store for Maxine and Maureen. Mike and Alma's preparations for their big dinner party look like being in

8.00 DES O'CONNOR TONIGHT With quests Berbra Streisand, Damage, Jimeoin and Ken Dodd (T) (6802)



Bruce Willia in action (9,00pm)

9.00 FILM: Die Hard (1988) A New York cop (Bruce Willis) arrives in LA to attend his estranged wife's party, but he finds himself caught in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse against Alan Rickman and his gang of highly efficient terrorists. Also staming Bonnie Bedelia. Directed by John McTierman (T) (66331555) 11.25 NEWS (T) and weather (185178)

11.40 FILM: Lifepod (1993) Sci-fi drama tocusing on nine survivors at a spaceship disaster trapped in a drifting escape pod with a saboleur among their number Directed by and staring Ron Silver with Robert Loggia, Jessica Tuck and Stan Shaw (907975)

1.20am FILM: Bite the Bullet (1975) starring Gene Hackman, James Cobum and Candice Bergen, Western set at the turnof-the-century about a motley crew of riders who enter an endurance horse race. Directed by Richard Brooks (33277598)

3,45 NOT FADE AWAY (6466666) 4.40 FILM: A Tale of Two Cities Animation (3046024) 5.55 NEWS (7415050)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except 12.45pm CELEBRITY SQUARES (936646) 1.20am Film: ARE YOU BEING SERVED?

90497E 3.05 Film: TILL DEATH US DO PART (1968)

4.50 FOOTBALL EXTRA (4135869) 5.30 THE MAKING OF STAR TREKS BEYOND FIRST CONTACT (5598383)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except 12.45pm-1.15 EMMERDALE (926046)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12.45pm WORLD OF WONDER (936046)

ANGLIA As HTV West except:

12.45-1.15 CROSSWITS (936046) Starts: 6.20am SESAME STREET (6920505)

7.20 THE BABYSITTERS CLUB (8461449) 7.50 STUNT DAWGS (2864449) 8.15 LITTLE SHOP (8646420)

8.35 WHERE ON EARTH IS CARMEN SAN 9.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (99081) 10.00 Film: TOM THUMB (17431979)

11.45 THE ADVENTURES OF MOLE (164371) 12.45pm SLOT MEITHRIN (736028) 1.15 RACING FROM CHELTENHAM

3.45 THE BEAST BITES BACK (2559772)

4.30 FAMOUS FRED (94)

5.00 5 PUMP (7265)

5.30 COUNTDOWN (46) 6.00 NEWYDDION (479772)

6.05 HENO (873449) 6.35 SION A SIAN (771642) 7,00 POBOL Y CWM (976420) 7.25 MOM: YR EIDEL (241517)

8.00 STEWART WHYTE MCEWAN JONES (790994) 8.45 NEWYDDION (243159) 9.00 PAVAROTTI RETURNS TO LLANGOLLEN The lenor entertains

10.30 BROOKSIDE (495739)

11.05 KLINIKI (196284) 11.20 COWS (909517)

12.15am CAROLINE IN THE CITY (38383) 12.45 HOMICIDE: LIFE ON THE STREET

BIE 1 Starts: 7.00 EURO NEWS (4747284) 8.00 TEXTELES (7543888) 8.15 Film: MONSIEUR VERDOUX (1634343) 10.15 NEW YEAR'S DAY CONCERT FROM VIENNA (26842555) 12.30pm WILDVISION (97474975) 12.35 GARDENERS' DIARY (46026468) 1.00 THE SOUND OF MUSIC (78529197) 4.55 THE FLYING BOATS AT FOYNES (41518888) 6.00 THE ANGELUS (9406420) 6.01 SIX-ONE AND WEATHER (6177361) 6.15 CARTOON TIME (9401975) 6.20 CONSUMING PASSIONS (9422465) 6.30 Film: THE THREE MUSKETEERS (9227130) 7.57 LOTTO DRAW NEWS AND WEATHER (5619420) 9.20 Film: IN THE LINE OF FIRE (13421352) 11.35 Film: **SOME LIKE IT HOT (76178468)**

CHANNE & WELL

6.20am SESAME STREET (6920505) 7.20 Dam SESAME STREET (6920505) 7.20
The Babysners Club (r) (8461449) 7.50
Sturt Dawgs (2864449) 8.15 Little Shop (r) (2646420) 8.35 Where on Earth is Camen San Diego? (r) (T) (3903975) 9.00 The Big Breaklast (99081) 10.00
Harigin' With Mr Cooper (r) (T) (87449) 10.30 The Crystal Maze (24245) 11.30 Sect to the Future (r) (Tr (6573541) 11.55 The Pink Panther in (7828438) 12.20pm Focko's Modern Life (r) 16564265) 12.45 Soul Searching (T) (736028)

1.15 RACING FROM CHELTENHAM Live coverage of the 1.35, 2.10, 2.45 and 3.20 races (49090504)

3.45 THE BEAST BITES BACK Could animals take over the world? (i) (1) 2559772 4.30 COUNTDOWN (T) (5604352) Followed

5.05 FILM: I'm All Right Jack (1969, b/w)
Classic comedy satire steming Peter
Sellers as a militant shop steward Also
with Ian Carmichael, Dennis Price and Richard Attenborough Directed by John Boulting (T) (22878604) 7.00 ALL STEAMED UP A look at the

expensive business of steam railway preservation (T) (2284)

8.00 BROOKSIDE Mike and Lindsey begin to wonder if there relationship has reached the end of its eventful road, Jimmy says larewell to the Close and Max and Susannah entertain unwelcome house guests (T) (3449)

8,30 A WOMAN OF INDEPENDENT MEANS Bess liquidates her assets as she begins her fight for control of the company which her tete husband's family feel should be placed in their hands for sale keeping Starring Sally Field and Tony Goldwyn (2/3) (1) (38568517)

10.15 KLINIKI First of a live-part surreal spool of a Dutch medical soap (647807)



The Johnson family line-up (10,25pm)

10.25 COWS Hour-long sitcom introduces the Johnson family, who are cows, all behaving extremely badly at every opportunity. Cowritten by cornedian Eddy Izzard (1)

11.25 FILM: Brubaker (1980). A fact-based drama starring Robert Redford as a liberal prison warden. Directed by Sluari Rosenberg (27986468)

1.50am FILM: Being There (1979) stamng Peter Sellers as an illiterate Weshington gardener who becomes a presidential candidate, Also with Shirley MacLaine Directed by Hal Ashby (61403685)

4.15-6.15 FILM: Hoffman (1970) stamng Peter Sellers as a lonely middle-age man who blackmails a young woman from his firm's typing pool into spending a week at his apartment. Also starring Sinead Cusaci Directed by Bryan

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory. published on Saturday

SKY.1

7.00am (ave Correction (58449) 7.30

Press Your Luck (60284) 8.00 Hotel (44130)

8.00 Designing Women (47994) 9.30

Designing Women (83894) 10.00 Another World (66488) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (48604) 12.00 The Oprah Whitey Show (73807) 1.00pm (687610) 62255) 2.00 Sally Jassy Raphael (80230) 3.00 Jerny Jones (75791) 4.00 The Oprah Whitey Show (54826) 5.00 Shar Treik The Next Generator (1248) 6.00 Real TV (6401) 6.30 Memed (940) (1248) 8.00 Set Sallongs (59884) 10.00 (1248) 8.00 Set Sallongs (59884) 10.00 Merder One (67891) 11.00 Star Treik The Next Generation (67197) 12.00 LAPD (43162) 12.200am The Lucy Show (37043) 1.00 Sid Long Play (93869)

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys 18524371)-8.00 Renegade (8500791) 9.00 New York Undercover (850055) 10.00 Water Rate (8529542) 11.00 Late Snow, with David Letterman (7604178) 12.00 Hz Mis Long Play (2736192)

SKY NEWS Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week SKY MOVIES

G.O.G. Gemetries and the Gladistors (1954) (82371) 8.00 The Bine Bird (1978) (2871) 10.00 The Bine Bird (1978) (2871) 10.00 Sweet Tellar (1990) (6988) 12.00 Catting Even, with Ded (1994) (1933) 2.00 pm Charlie's Ghost (1994) (1933) (200 pm Charlie's Ghost (1994) (1994) (2071) 4.00 The Little Bascals (1994) (2176) 4.00 The Little Bascals (1994) (1904) 7.20 El Norre Week in Review (1933) 8.00 Herostone in the Machine of the Minotaur (1994) (1032) 10.00 Bastore Surrise (1994) (102517) 1.20 pm Tripped and Decelved (1994) (224516) 2.50 Shore & The Secret (1994) (250840) 4.20 Josh and SAM (1994) (250840) 4.20 Josh and SAM (1994) (2508640) 4.20 Josh and SAM (1994) (2508640) 4.20 Josh and SAM (1994) (2508640) 4.20 Josh and SAM

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 4.00em The Errand Boy [1961) (37246) 7.30 Ghost Stories From the Pichelck Papers (1987) (31333) 8.30 Preinyaberist 8 (1994) (26246) 70.00 Stoter Act it Stock In the Habit (1953) (36130) 12.00 Three Little Nifejas and the Lost Transcove (1990) (18975) 2.00pm Lasete (1994) (26913) 4.00 Young Indiana Jones. (1996) (7420) 8.00 Stoter Act if (1993) (1346) 9.00 Nated Gun 33 1/3: The First insult (1994) (1894) (100 Tamacop (1994) (330994) 11.40 Gotden Guis (1993) (701828) 1.15ss The House That Mary Bought (1994) (277375) 3.05 The Happy Hooker (1974) (149024) 4.45 Prehysterial II (1994) (13006) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00am This telend Earth (1954) (9430866) 6.00 Startoan (1984) (9266159) 8.00 Energy Mine (1985) (9261604) 10.00 s.00 Energy Mane (1903) (626-1604) 14.00 Predetor (1987) (53052) 11.50 Allena (1986) (52227294) 2.05pm Life, Paret (1985) (5823650) 4.05 My Stepmother Is an Allen (1989) (51520840) 8.00 EM

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00em Muppe; Babies (\$984082) 6.25
Sing Me a Story, with Bable (\$98397) 6.30
Big Geroge (\$792178) 7.00 Guilner's
Travels (7415852) 7.45 Deck the Hells
(4177642) 8.10 Borkers (7474887) 8.35
Mighly Quels: (\$800904) 8.00 Timon and
Armbas (1203888) 8.10 Fill.Mr (son Witt
(14324159) 10.55 Timon and Pumbas
(2870082) 11.05 Fill.Mr (sabrina the
Theorage Witch (29434178) 12.40pm
Timon and Pumbas (44838248) 12.50
Fill.Mr (Mary Popplas, 44838449) 3.05
Fill.Mr (Sabrina the Travels (Sabrina the Timon and Pumbas (\$7507807) 3.15 Fill.Mr
Tron (39274828) 7.00 Almost Home (\$381)
Tron Counn (837826) 8.15 Touchad by
7.30 Dr Quinn (837826) 8.15 Touchad by 1706 (352746) 37826) 8.15 Touched by 20 Angel (857994) 9.00 LBa's Work (78928) 9.30-10.00 Golden Girls (69517) Sky Movies Gold talos over at 10pm.

SKY SPORTS I 7.00mm Recing News (78589) 7:30 Like International Cricker (883823) 3:30pm Spors Centre Results Special (78265) 5:00 Live Footbal Special (82191772) 10:18 Sports Centre (710449) 10:46 International Cricket (439436) 12:45am Sports Centre (394614)-1.18 Footbal Special (3046227) 4:18-4:46 Sports Centre (397850)

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Drag Racing (83511791) 12.30pm The Best Goals and Football Bloopers of 1996 (96537081) 2.00 NHL ice Hockey (20031823) 4.00 Westersports World (43493772) 5.00 WWF: Challenge (75851975) 6.00 Sports Unimited (67585371) 7.00 Chalet (7578549) 9.00 Westersports World (20092252) 10.00 Sports Unimited (20092252) 10.00 Sports Unimited (20092739) 11.00-12.00 Rutted Mundiel (43484401)

EUROSPORT 7.30am Al. Sports (87265) 8.30 Ski-kmping (86869) 10.00 Kerting (26046) 11.00 Football (80062) 12.00 Al Sports (33178) 1.00pm Stongmen (42826) 2.00 (he Ternis (4431028) 5.30 Ski-kmping (96536) 7.30 Live Alpine Skiting (55535) 8.20 Tracistnet (80772) 10.30-12.20mm Ski-kmping (85517) Jumping (58517)

GRANADA PLUS 8.00am The Kryston Factor (9812284) 6.30 Tickle on the Turn (34608604) 6.45 1-2-3 Got (26826489 7.00 Alsonis (5601604) 7.15 Tickle on the Turn (9688791) 7.30 Grahem's Ari. (5909951) 7.50 Jose Smith (342778) 8.00 Cassic Coronalon Street (1739178) 8.30 The Kypton Factor (1738449) 9.00 Families (1712401) 9.30 (1738/49) SUR Families (1712/01) 9.30 Crown Court Special (9747420) 10.00 Classic Coronation Steet: The Beginning (4558/20) 10.30 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (1741915) 11.00 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (935807) 11.30 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (935807) 11.30 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (935807) 11.30 Classic

(985807) 11.30 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (9836535) 12.00 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (173295) 12.30pm Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (9756535) 1.00 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (9906212) 1.30 Classic Coronation Street: The Beginning (97578707) 2.00 Classic (8908-12) 1,30 Calastic Commands seek The Beginning (9757807) 2,00 Classic Coronation Street The Beginning (3131130) 2,30 Classic Commalion Street The Beginning (2355469) 3,00 Classic Commalion Street The Beginning (3150266) 3,30 Classic Commation Street The Beginning (2350913) 4,00 Classic (3150265) 3.30 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (2350813) 4.00 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (2338420) 4.30 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (2335604) 5.00 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (3155710) 5.30 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (3155710) 5.30 Classic Coronation Street. The Beginning (23797744) 6.00 Classic (3155710) 5.30 Classic Coronation Steel:
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Coronation Steel (2356197) 6.30 Families
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Charge 2 (3142245) 7.30 Trouble in Isind
(2258235) 8.00 Time for Murder (8048797)
9.00 Classic Coronation Street (3848371)
9.30 Christmas on the Street (2738772) 8.00pm Steven Spielborg's Amezing Sto-ries (1753284) 8.30 The Tutight Zone (1732791) 8.00 FRM: America 3000



Mary McCormack in Murder One (Sky 1, 10.00pm)

10.00-11.00 The Somers (6061642) From 11.00pm-2.00mp Men and Mo GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00em-9.00 TV High Shoot. Includes consumer news and features and includes consumer news and regulate and Your Spins presented by Russell Gran! From 9,00-12,00 Food and Wine, In-cludes recipes and ideas from Dela Smith From 12,00-3,00pm Houth und Benuty, includes Diet and Fitness with Rosemany Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography Ave Gardner (6161062) 5.00 Modern Manuels (1743807) 8.00 Our Century: 1968-1980, Peace and Less (1708655) 7.00-8.00 Biography The Enter-turiers — Medicy Rooney (5242505) THE SCI-PI CHANNEL Firms, features and classic series evidy day from 8pea-farm Monday to Wednesday and farm-farm Trunsday to Sunday on satellite, and from 8em-farm every day on catellite, and spon Several Subborn's Amezino Sto(43696975) 10.35 New Buzz Syles (9357265) 11,00 Friday the 13th (3375176) 12.00 The Incredible Hulk (9801647) 1,00am Tre Trilight Zona (6139666) 1,300 Tales of the Unexpected (6713036) 2,00 New Alfred Hazhecok (3029918) 2,30 Ped Setting 5 Night Galary (3031752) 3,00-4,00 Friday the 13th (7534685)

TLC/DISCOVERY 8.00am New Yankee Workshop (3134913)

10.20 New Yankee Wonshop (3130197)
11.00 Rea Hunt's Fishing Activities (281178) 11.30 Rea Hunt's Fishing Activities (282107) 12.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Activities (4282807) 12.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventure (3121449) 12.20pm Horse Again (8160130) 1.30 Home Again (4110438) 2.00 Home Again (8110438) 2.00 Go Fishing (828289) 3.00 Test (428289) 4.30 Readshow (428289) 5.00 Time Tarvellers (838865) 8.30 Term X Mystery of the Ansent Indians (888604) 6.00 Wild Things: Savennah Wacci (881506) 7.00 Next Step (8488791) 7.30

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7.00cm Georg to Goto (7124552) 7.25 Cottsmann (565247) 8.00 Neighbours 727566 8.25 Europhone (9723474) 9.00 The Br. 7136271 9.30 The Subvant (62350 10.06 The high-liver's Gotofs to the Gotof, To 12351 10.50 Dr. Who (9247532) 12.50pm The High-High-Guide to the Grow, (126555) 1.30 Blake's Sevent (222577, 2.30 The High-High's Chart to the Cotton (1265578) 2.10 Dr. Mine peint (2019) 239 195 Herridge's Gude for Ellary (65739) 210 D Who and the Robot (6661175) 5.00 The High-High I Super to the Gulday (778355) 5.00 D Who Who That 30 Years in the Tartis (306112), 8.25 The High-High & Gude to the Gazary (765/625) 7.06 Dr Who More Than 30 Years in the Targe (643/47569) 8.10 The hour-base's Guste to the Galacy 12712567 8.56 FILM: Millionnium 168132975 10.50 Dr Who and the Dae-mons (7723622) 1.00mm The Tunight Zone Rad Sanng's Loss Classos. (213:1537: **2.30** Shopping at Night (503:1685)

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6.00am Teenage IAJani Hero Turries (6433) 6.30 Bike Mice from Mars (65061) 7.00 Captain Simon and the Space Monkeys (96081) 7.30 Tales from the Cryphaeper (64588) 8.00 Mighty Mai (99346) 8.30 Hey Amold (98517) 8.00 Rugner (79301) 18.00 Aparts Post Marses (79301) 18.00 Aparts Post Marses (79301) 18.00 Pages (19301) 18.00 Page Figure (1992), 10,000 April 1904 Morting 1905 (1993) 10,000 Reptus Modern Life (54951) 11,000 Bruno the Red (1995) 11,000 The Ren and Strony Shore (17791) 12,00 Strong Sister (1995), 10,00pm Modeshu (97352) 1,200 The Secret World of Alex Market (2015) 1.30 (he became sond to were made-(2688), 2.00 (lansas Explures II All (4975) 2.30 (boug (2603) 2.00 Apathi Real (Anteres 16710) 3.30 Strukmi Around (4468) 4.00 Bruno the kid (2975) 4.30 Rugals (9169) 5.00 State Suter (7062) 6.00 Moesha (3352) 6.30-7.00 Are nou

PARAMOUNT 7.00pm Officer Strokes (8791) 7.30 Berson (2648) 8.00 Due South (43604) 9.00 Almost Perfect (26826) 9.20 Tus (30061) 10.00 Emertamment Un. (9362) 10.30 Gars on Top (44410) 11.00 Paramount Presents (31371) 11.30 Mightstand (38178) 12.30am Stedge Hammon (40631) 1.00 Due South (4769) 2.00 Enternamment UK (67531) 2.30 Paramount Presents (86676) 3.00 Gars on Top (19821) 3.30-4.00 Almost Perfect (77918) 4.00 Almora Period (77918)

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sease the time typnet (\$715848) 1.00pm Perungton Steeld (\$615848) 2.00 Space 1999 #5583352) 4.00 FILM: Teen Wolft (\$42352) 8.00 Thunderbird: (\$710492) 7.00 The Champons (\$595187) 8.00 Alen Nation (\$571517) 9.00 The Peruaders (\$554081) 10.00-12.00 FILM: Borderline (4272420)

BRAVO

UK LIVING 6.00em Kitroy (5932587) 8.50 Trivial Pursui) (16168642) 7.10 Turmabout (4157994) 7.40 The Young and the Reptiess (5875420) 8.30 Rhodes Around Britain (8253401) 9.00 Chaine's Angels (43018907) 10.05 Jeny Springer Uncut (3160081) 11.00 The Young and the Resiliess (255791) 11.55 Broksate (98187807) 12.50 Gabrielle (5493082) 1.40 The Gordon Elvot Show (823875) 2.30 The Agony Experience

(6502536) 3.00 Life at Three (15534474) 655:536] 3.00 Life at Three (15534474] 4.10 The Jerry Syringe Show (4816081) 5.05 Lingo (76952507) 5.30 Lichy Ledders (6565352) 6.00 1 Dream of Jeanne (926159) 6.35 Ready, Steady, Cook (6535555) 7.05 Strockside (8191555) 7.35 Who's Sory New? (2228021) 8.05 Robothes (5355401) 9.00 FILM: Tomys and Newby: The Inside Story (9263517) 11.00-12.00 The Ser Firs II (9012808) FAMILY CHANNEL

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were and the lines! music video charts The video hits channel, Classic rock and DGO videos and the best new sounds

ZEE TV 7.00am Joagran 7.30 Life Style East 8.30 Postive Health Show 8.00 Bengali Serial Ebor Jumbe Marwa 8.30 Abhinshi 10.00 Tera 11.00 Women's Magazine Pro-gramme, Manasi 11.30 Dance Mania 12.00

Originate Matters Hand Later main factor Dentar 12.30pm Nulkad 1.00 FILM: Angostesy 4.00 Public Demand 5.00 ZEE Zone 5.30 All Late 6.00 Campus 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 kamel kombination 7.30 Banagi April Baat 00 News and Euronews 8.30 Destaan 9.05-12.00 Fil.M: Army CARTOON NETWORK/TNT ous cartoons from 5am to 9pm Henr TKT Birds as below.

9.00pm Kelty's Heroes (1970)
(85790284) 11.30 The Dirty Dozen (1967)
(8571848) 2.00am-6.00 Where Eagles
Dare (1889) (94127956)

PERFORMANCE 7.00pm Ricke Let Jones (9297642) 8.00 Ans (3289343) 8.20 Barber of Seville (15606994) 11.15 Aria (8122468) 12.00-1.002m Dave Holland Curres (1481821)



TAKEOVERS 35

Leaping to the defence of Simon de Zoete

BUSINESS

Simon Bentley leads the top 1996 performers



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1 1997

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Bankers forecast housing market to strengthen further

By JANET BUSH

THE housing market is set for a general and sustainable strengthening this year, according to the British Bankers Association, which yesterday unveiled its latest mort-

gage lending figures.

The major British banking groups made gross loans of £2.672 billion in November, virtually the same as October's total of £2.667 billion. Seasonally adjusted figures for net lending showed a rise in mortgage lending of £610 million in

November, a touch down on the £623 million increase in October. New approvals were down 6 per cent from October's level, with a total

value of £2.358 billion approved in November against £2.503 billion previously. However, the BBA noted that these figures still compared favourably with last year's 10 per cent fall in the value of approvals between October and November.

Tim Sweeney, Director-General of the BBA, said: "The steady recovery seen over recent months in the major banks' mortgage business continued in November, and the indications for strong figures and that, together with the fact that building society mortgage lending figures are higher than a year ago, the evidence is of a general and sustainable strengthen-

ing in the market.

The BBA's figures suggest that the quarter-point rise in base lending rates at the end of October has not dented activity in the housing market. Although most building societies did not move their rates until December, once they had seen

future growth are promising." He noted that approvals had held up well in November after October's the contents of the Budget, some psychological impact might have been expected from the first base rate rise for 21 months.

Lenders are now looking towards the next monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, on January 15. Although Mr Clarke has said he sees no dangerous inflationary pressures emerging. Mr George be-lieves rates will have to rise sooner

Most forecasters expect another quarter-point rise in rates early in the new year. Some argue that, faced with pressure from the Bank. Mr Clarke may opt to move in January, as far away from the election as possible. Others suggest that the Chancellor may want to wait until February's monetary meeting, when he will have seen the fourth-quarter growth figures, published on January 27.

The BBA's positive assessment of prospects for the housing sector echos the optimism expressed by a clutch of leading lenders. The Halifax building society, Britain's biggest mortgage lender, said yesterday that the housing market recovery was now well established and forecast a "sustainable and healthy recovery" in 1997. It is expecting house prices to rise by between 6 per cent and 3 per cent this year. The Halifax said that there was a danger of a 1980s style boom and bust, but emphasised that

this was still unlikely.

The Nationwide and Abbey National both believe that house prices will rise by an average of 7 per cent this year, while Bardays Mortgages said that homeowners are becoming more optimistic about the market.

Freeze lifts oil price and worries insurers

By MARIANNE CURPHEY AND CARL MORTISHED

THE cold snap in Europe pushed oil prices higher yes-terday, and prompted warn-ings from insurers that the freeze over Britain may soon lead to increases in household and motor premiums.

In the oil market, the price of the February Breat Crude contract rose to \$23.80 per harrel in London, and heating oil closed at \$223.80 per tonne, up a further 75 cents after Monday's \$6 surge in price. However, gas prices in Britain remain subdued.

Very cold weather at Christmas 1995 cost Britain's insurance companies £400 million, with Scotland and northern England the worst-affected areas. The Association of British Insurers (ABI) yesterday gave warning that if record low temperatures affect the whole of the country this year, claims could run into billions of pounds.

Insurers have laid on hondreds of extra staff to cope with an expected influx of calls from homeowners suffering from damage caused by burst pipes when the thaw eventually begins.
Although the ABI has spent

more than £135,000 this winter trying to inform house-holders how to avoid damage. its members are bracing themselves for a rise in claims over

the next few weeks. Last year, most of the damage occurred during the holi-day period, when temperatures were at their lowest and many business premises were empty, unheated and unchecked for a formight. £100 million for cold-weather damage to commercial

premises A spokesman for Royal & Sun Alliance said: "If insurers experience another winter of large claims, they will have to reconsider their current rates." Bacton prices for gas reported by PH Energy Analysis range between 140-160 per therm, well below the 250 per

therm seen in a sudden spike in price in November. Transco, which runs the gas flexibility market, said that demand was subdued, probably due to the long closure of businesses over Christmas

and the new year holiday.



Victoria Younghushand, a lawyer with Stephenson Harwood, becomes the first woman to join the City University Club. Three London clubs are men only. Ms Younghushand, who first visited the club as her father's guest in October, said: "I abhor the 'sandwiches at the desk routine'."

Astec's chairman sells £2.4m of shares

By Sarah Cunningham

BRIAN CHRISTOPHER, man of Astec (BSR), the electronics components group that he helped to found 25 years ago, has sold £2.46 million worth of shares in the company, it was revealed yesterday.

A spokesman for the

company said that Mr Christopher, who is 63 and has two children. sold 1.6 million shares on Monday out of the family trust. The sale was for personal reasons, the spokesman added.

Mr Chrisopher sold the shares at 154p each and has retained 3.1 million shares in the com-pany, equal to a 0.5 per

Mr Christopher founded Astec in Hong Kong in 1971 with Neal Stewart. In the late Seventies Astec was backed into BSR, the struggling Birmingham-based comiy formeriy known a Birmingham Sound Reproducers. The group has been based in Hong Kong since 1983 but its shares are still listed in London. Mr Christopher became the chief executive of the group in 1982 and chairman in 1988.

Shares in Astec (BSR) fell lp to 157'2p yester-day. The rest of Mr Christopher's stake is therefore worth nearly £5

Engineers see 400,000 job losses

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S engineering in-dustry is likely to lose up to 400,000 jobs through technological and product change, industry leaders are to announce.

The industry's forecast of jobs to shed over the next decade is in addition to any jobs which may be lost for economic reasons over the business cycle.

Leaders of the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEP) will announce the forecast job losses later this month, when they reveal the results of a long-term strategic review of the future of the engineering industry in Britain.

Based on an extensive survey of engineering company chief executives, training and development professionals, formers, the EEF's forecast will steer clear of business changes, including job losses or gains, resulting from the economic cycle. It will instead focus on the shape of the engineering industry until the year 2010.

In overall terms, the review will suggest that the prospects for engineering in Britain look reasonably optimistic. The re-view will also suggest that Britain is likely to focus in-creasingly on the higher-value computer-based control and

systems products rather than traditional metal-bashing.

The strategic review will suggest that such technological and product market changes will have a significant impact on the engineering workforce in the UK. EEF leaders will forecast a decline in the workforce in Britain from its current level of about 1.6 million people to between 1.2 and 1.4 million — a cut of up to 400,000 jobs by the year 2010.

Most of the job cuts will be driven by the changing and higher skill mix the industry is expected to require. The industry's review will say that the profile of the remaining engineering workforce will change "significantly", with a sharp reduction in the number of unskilled and semi-skilled

Instead, there will be a much higher proportion of professional engineers, technologists and technicians as the technological and skill requirement of the industry

Although the industry will recognise that such changes will have considerable implications for its current workforce the EEFs study will forecast that 50 per cent of the people who will join the industry in the future will have had some form of higher education.

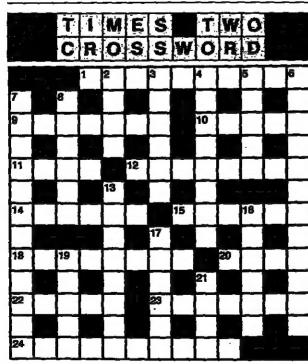
The review will also conclude that the industry's workforce will be increasingly flexible, with a higher proportion of women employed at all levels, especially in graduate and technical positions.

EEF leaders, who are arguing that the industry will increasingly move from current "lean" production techniques to what the review will describe as "agile" manufacturing — a flexible and reconfigurable approach to business which will involve smaller manufacturing units coming together on an ad hoc basis — are suggesting that the changes they are forecast-ing will carry further implications for employee relations in

engineering. National collective bargaining was ended in Britain's engineering industry in 1989, and the EEF will suggest that the changes it envisages in its "real challenge" to trade unions organising in the traditionally highly unionised

The highly skilled and highly paid people the indus-try will need, together with more flexible manufacturing systems, are likely to reduce the need for union representation and highly structured trade union agreements, the EEF argues. One EEF leader says: "I see

these changes as totally changing the traditional trade union-employer relationships, and a further decline of union membership in the manufacturing sector."



Advantage: rim (4)
Fall; dry (clothes) in machine (6)
Wicked action (8)

Jettisons: the miserable down in them (5)
Make embarrassing error (4.1.7)

Tudor style (house) (4-8) Portable computer (6) Annihilated (5.3)

ACROSS Double-edged (complement): southpaw (boxer) (4-

Mercury alloy (7) 10 Brainless, violent hero (80s films) (5)
11 Destiny (4)
12 In which Danube, Dnieper drain (5.3)
14 Reduce in effectiveness (6)
15 Walts cereity (6)

15 Walk gently (6) 18 To flatter (6.2)

10 Inner (0.2)
20 Brick-firing oven (4)
22 Doomed, romantic hero (Shak) (5)
23 Systematic study of phenomena (7)
24 (Artistic) dabbler (10)

13 Annihitated (5.5)
16 The East (6)
17 Its behaviour "a riddle ... a mystery ... an enigma" (Churchill) (6)
19 S India. Sri Lanka people, language (5)
21 Thin fog (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 978
ACROSS: 1 Home help 5 Etch 9 Good Samaritan 10 Shoe
11 New Year 13 Infant 15 Sensor 18 Tsunami 20 Buch
23 Reprehensible 24 Also 25 Holy Week DOWN: I Huge 2 Mooch 3 Has-been 4 Le Mans 6 7 Honorary 8 Crow 12 Victoria 14 Faux pas 16 Embassy 17 Cicero 19 Apex 21 Cable 22 Deck

17 Ckero 19 Apex 21 Cable 22 Deck
SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 974
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS: 1 Ill-treat 5 Seek 8 Betel 9 Athlete 11 Box
12 Octennial 13 Devote 15 Dulcet 18 Pendulous 19 Cox
20 Legible 21 Idler 22 Nerd 23 Tentacle
DOWN: 1 Imbibed 2 Latex 3 Rule of thumb 4 Awaits 6 Elegiac
7 Knell 10 Honours list 14 Vinegar 16 Tax-free 17 Popeye
18 Pylon 19 Colic

Due to the Christmas post, the winners of the Times Two Crossword 974 will be published next Wednesday. All flights subject to availability.

Shares close year with a record

By Michael Clark and Janet Bush

SHARE prices in London saw out the shortened trading session on the last day of the year on a high note. But it was not the fast and furious end to the year that many investors had hoped for.

After hitting a new intra day high of 4,123.2, the FT-SE 100 index of leading shares ended just 2.8 up at a new closing high of 4,118.5. That is a rise on the year for the index of 11.7 per cent. But the year-on-year perfor-

mance of the FT-SE falls far short of the 20.3 per cent rise it achieved in 1995. Inevitably, with the stock market closing at 12.30pm turnover was affected. It slumped to its lowest level of the year with just 203 million

shares changing hands. The pound appropriately ended a year of spectacular gains on a rising note, gaining not only against a weakening mark but also against a resurgent dollar.

Sterling's effective index against a basket of currencies ended at 96.1 yesterday, a substantial rise even on Monday's close of 95.6. At the end 1996, it stood 15.6 per cent higher than at the end of 1995. The pound's gains have

been most spectacular against a sagging yen, rising 24 per cent. Sterling rose 16.9 per cent against the French franc and 18.7 per cent against the mark. It appreciated 10.3 per cent against the dollar, which itself was doing well in comparison with other world currencies.

Because of problems at our supplier, a small proportion of the unit trust prices on page 34 has not been updated from Monday.

Businessman sues the SFO for libel

By Jon Ashworth

AN Isle of Man businessman is suing the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) for defamation, in a case linked to the prosecution of Charles Deacon, the Staffordshire solicitor jailed last January over an interna-

tional "advance fee" fraud. Thomas Taylor, of Santon in the Isle of Man, is suing the SFO and a Staffordshire policeman acting for it over an interview conducted in March

Mr Taylor alleges slander in remarks made during the interview, which was conducted at the offices of Burton Copeland, the solicitor. He further alleges that a tran-script of the interview is libellous. Mr Taylor is suing

for unspecified damages.

Details are outlined in a writ issued at the High Court in London. Mr Taylor could

not be contacted yesterday, and his lawyer was unable to

The SFO said it had received the writ, and would be contesting the allegations.

The case is thought to be linked to ongoing investiga-tions surrounding the Deacon

Deacon and his accomplice, James Fuller, were jailed for a total of 16 years at Middlesex Crown Court in January, after they were convicted of swinuals out of a total of £11.25

million. Victims included Belling the former cooker manufac turer, which paid £2.5 million from pension fund assets against a \$50 million loan which never materialised. Belling went into liquidation

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GWR stays tuned to takeover

The cash bid values each Radio

Wyvern share at £7.55, and offers a

notional interest payment of 24p. There is a share alternative of 4.01

new GWR shares for each Radio

Wyvern share. GWR said 57 per cent of Radio Wyvern shareholders, in-



GWR, the acquisitive regional radio group which on Monday completed cluding the station's directors, have aiready committed themselves to e purchase of Classic FM, kept up accepting the offer.

GWR already operates 32 local licences in the UK and has 3.9 million listeners in the South, Midlands and the pace yesterday by buying Radio Wyvern for E3.9 million. Henry Meakin, chairman of GWR. East of England. As part of the disposal programme after the Classic FM acquisition, GWR has agreed to sell some of its shares in Leicester said: "The acquisition will increase the enlarged group's attractiveness and potential to advertisers and sponsors." He said the deal should be carnings enhancing in the year ending March 31, 1998. Sound and LNR, and some AM

Radio Wyvern, which serves Hereford and Worcester, has one FM and one AM licence. GWR may dispose of the Wyvern Radio FM licence, or of its Severn Sound FM licence, if. regulators decide it is too dominant in the area.

The fast track

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